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THE
Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT, AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXVI.—NEW SERIES, No. 1083.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1866.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 6d.
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**RENOVATION of BUCKINGHAM CON-
GREGATIONAL CHAPEL, PIMLICO.**

Minister.—Rev. W. H. JELLIE.

This Church, where for Forty Years the Rev. E. Dunn was minister, has, after long depression, at length revived. The friends are encouraged now to hope for it permanent prosperity. The outlay in making necessary alterations and repairs, and of placing the Chapel safely in Trust, will be considerable, while to incur any debt would act prejudicially to its progress; the appeal is therefore urgently made to those who had association with it in the past, and to all who feel interest in its welfare, to render us timely help.

The following sums have been contributed:—

	£	s.	d.
Promises from the Church and Congregation	120	0	0
London Congregational Chapel Building Society	50	0	0
Rev. J. Spencer Pearsall	5	0	0
J. Remington Mills, Esq., M.P.	20	0	0
John Clapham, Esq.	5	0	0
Daniel Pratt, Esq.	2	0	0
Samuel Morley, Esq.	25	0	0
Rev. W. Tyler	2	0	0
Christian World	2	2	0

Subscriptions will be gratefully received by Rev. W. H. Jellie, 47, Tachbrook-street, Pimlico; Mr. James Parker, 24, Denbigh-street, Pimlico; or may be paid to Messrs. Barclay, Bevan, and Co., Bankers, 54, Lombard street, E.C.

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE—BRITISH ORGANISATION.—Members, and others friendly to Christian Union, are informed that the next ANNUAL CONFERENCE will be held in BATH, OCTOBER 16, and Three following Days. Deputations from Foreign Countries will be present.

JAMES DAVIS, Secretary.

HERMANN SCHMETTAU, For. Secretary.

Alliance House, Adam-street, Strand, London, W.C., Aug. 7, 1866.

ADVANTAGEOUS OFFER TO PARENTS.

A PROFESSIONAL LADY has the opportunity of PLACING ONE or TWO YOUNG LADIES at excellent SCHOOLS, near London, at a considerable reduction in terms, where they will receive a sound education, with accomplishments, have every comfort, and the utmost care bestowed upon their religious and moral culture. References exchanged.

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**MESSRS. E. J. and A. UPWARD, WHOLE-
SALE and RETAIL PROVISION MERCHANTS,** Newport, Isle of Wight, have a VACANCY for a FIRST COUNTERMAN; must be Thirty Years of Age, and a Member of a Nonconformist Christian Church.

TO GROCERS.—WANTED, in a First-class Family Trade, a YOUTH of Good Education as IMPROVER or JUNIOR ASSISTANT.

Apply, Lincoln and Co., 35, Sidney-street, Cambridge.

APPRENTICE.—The Parents of a YOUTH, age 14, are desirous of APPRENTICING him to some BUSINESS not too laborious.

Apply by letter to F. P., care of Mr. G. Street, 30, Cornhill, E.C.

**APARTMENTS FURNISHED.—TWO
PARLOURS** (with Folding-doors and Conservatory), FURNISHED as SITTING and BEDROOM, near to Oxford-road Chapel. Healthy situation, close to "Bus" and Rail. Terms moderate.

Apply at 3, Crescent-street, Thornhill-crescent, Barnsbury-park.

**WHITTINGTON HOUSE, FOREST-
HILL, SYDENHAM.**—The Rev. H. J. CHANCELLOR receives young gentlemen to board and educate. The course of instruction includes the subjects required for the Oxford Local Examinations. Masters in Music, Drawing, and Modern Languages. References—Sir F. G. Moon, Bart., E. Hamilton, Esq., M.P., Professor Fawcett, Esq., M.P., Rev. S. Martin, J. Spence, D.D., Newman Hall, LL.B., W. J. Unwin, LL.D., R. D. Wilson, W. J. Todd, &c. &c. Other references, with terms, sent on application.

**EDUCATION by the SEASIDE. CLIFTON
VILLA, SOUTH CLIFF, SCARBOROUGH.**

MRS. MAYNARD, assisted by efficient Governesses and Professors, continues to receive Young Ladies to Board, and to instruct in all the branches of a superior education.

References—Rev. James Aisworth, LL.D., Scarborough; Rev. Robert Bagnall, Scarborough; Professor Baynes, LL.B., St. Andrew's College, N.B.; James Gibbs Blake, Esq., M.D., Birmingham; Rev. H. V. H. Cowell, B.A., Taunton; Rev. S. G. Green, B.A., President of Rawdon College; Rev. W. Guest, Canonbury, London; Rev. N. Haycroft, M.A., Bristol; E. B. Underhill, Esq., LL.D., London; Rev. Charles Vinco, Birmingham.

Prospectuses on application.

*. The School Year is divided into Three Terms. The next Session commences on THURSDAY, August 30th.

**WEST BRIXTON, S.—OBERLIN HOUSE
SCHOOL FOR YOUNG GENTLEMEN.**

Prospectuses of the above forwarded on application. References to Parents of Present Pupils.

School REOPENS September 7.

Term system adopted.

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Home comforts. Superior educational advantages. Moderate Terms. Prospectuses and References from the Rev. E. Webster, M.R.C.P., Principal.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES PROPRIETARY SCHOOL COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD MASTER: Rev. ROBERT HALLEY, M.A.

SECOND MASTER: EDWARD STEANE JACKSON, Esq., M.A.

The Next TERM will COMMENCE on the 1st AUGUST, when a portion of the New Buildings will be ready for Occupation.

PRESENT TERMS:

For Pupils entering under 14 years of age, 40 guineas.
For Pupils entering above 14 years of age, 50 guineas.
These Terms will be increased Ten Guineas for Pupils entering after August.

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Is confidently commended to the notice of Parents in quest of a comfortable Home, with an accomplished Education for their daughters. Careful Religious Training is combined with the highest Mental Culture.

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English Literature	Mrs. C. L. BALFOUR.
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Globes and Natural Science	R. QUINTON, Esq.
Music, Theory, &c.	JOHN BLOCKLEY, Esq.
Do. Piano, &c.	HERR LOUIS DICH.
Singing	JAMES COWARD, Esq.
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The Rev. JOSEPH FLETCHER receives a limited number of YOUNG GENTLEMEN into his Family, to Educate, between the ages of Eight and Eighteen.

The Course of Instruction includes all the usual branches of learning, from the most elementary to the most advanced.

The Studies are under the constant superintendence of the Principal, assisted by a Graduate of one of the Universities, and by Native Professors of the French and German Languages.

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The System of Education is Domestic rather than Collegiate; the Pupils being treated as the members of a family rather than as a school, during the intervals of study.

Liberal Board is provided. Each Pupil has a separate bed, with ample sleeping room. The locality—on the South Coast, opposite the Needles—affords a healthful sea-side air, with opportunities for regular sea-bathing; and the grounds, comprising several acres, offer abundant facilities for youthful games and recreation. A Railway Station within a mile of the house renders it accessible from all parts.

Prospectus, with Terms, &c., may be had on application as below—

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BANK, DERBYSHIRE.**

Established 1860, is replete with every convenience for the most skilful application of the Water Cure, and the comfort of its inmates. Terms, from One and a Half to Two Guineas a week. Physician, J. Cash, Esq., M.R.C.S.

For particulars apply to Mr. W. C. Wyles, Proprietor

**SHORTHAND.—PITMAN'S PHONO-
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Phonography is taught in Class, at 7s. 6d.; or Private Instruction given, personally or by post, for £1 1s. the Perfect Course of Lessons.

London: 20, Paternoster-row, E.C.

ALEXANDRE'S HARMONIUMS, at five

and six guineas.—CHAPPELL and Co. recommend these as incomparably the best cheap HARMONIUMS. Alexandre's last medal (1862) was especially for "cheapness combined with excellence of manufacture." Four octaves, with one pedal board, five guineas; five octaves, with two pedal boards, six guineas. An immense stock of all kinds.—At Chappell's, 50, New Bond-street.

**ALEXANDRE'S BOUDOIR HARMO-
NIUM** (The Queen's Model), as designed and manufac-

tured expressly for her Majesty's private use, in rosewood case, with ten stops and percussion action, thirty-five guineas; also, with fourteen stops and percussion action, fifty-five guineas. These instruments are eminently adapted for boudoirs and drawing-rooms.—CHAPPELL and Co., 50, New Bond-street.

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MODEL HARMONIUM for the CHURCH, thirteen stops, four rows of vibrators, and Venetian swell, worked by the heel of the right foot, in oak case thirty-two guineas. A large assortment may be always seen at CHAPPELL and Co.'s, 50, New Bond-street.

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NEW PATENT SEWING MACHINES,

PRODUCING WORK ALIKE UPON BOTH SIDES,

£5 5s.

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Catalogues free.

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The Prussian Needle Gun, or Zundnadel-gewehr, and other breechloading firearms of Snider, Green (Reilly and Co.), Henry, Mount Storm, Westley Richards, Spencer, and Young, &c., &c. Explanatory Lecture by Professor Pepper, daily at Two and Saturday at One; with other Entertainments. Open from Twelve till Five, and Seven till Ten. Admission, One Shilling.

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RAILWAY COMPENSATION VALUER, &c.,

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Assurances effected. Rents collected. Auction Sales and Valuations for Probate undertaken.

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LEA and COMPANY'S Price for HETTON, HASWELL, or LAMBTON WALL'S-END, the best House Coal, direct by screw steamers, or the Great Northern Railway, is 25s. per ton; Hartlepool, or Wall's-end Second, 24s.; best Silkatone (G. Chambers and Co.'s), 22s.; Wharfedale, 22s.; second-class, 21s.; new Silkatone, 21s.; Clay Cross, 22s. and 19s.; Derby Bright, 19s.; Barnsley, 19s.; Tanfield Moor, for Smiths, 19s.; Hartley, 19s.; best small, 18s. Coke, 15s. per chaldron, net cash. Delivered, thoroughly screened, to any part of London. All orders to LEA and CO.'S Offices, Highbury, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Great Northern Railway Coal Department, King's-cross, N.; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park Basin, N.W. No Travellers or Agents employed.

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CAUTION.—The above are the only addresses of G. J. C. & Co.

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BENSON'S WATCHES, sent safe by post.

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Prize Medal, 1862.

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BENSON'S ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLET.

2d.

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NEW and ELEGANT DRESSES at 10s. 9d.,

12s. 9d., extra full length. Chiné Mohairs, Arabian Lustres, and Double Alpaca are included. All the New Patterns in French Muslins clearing out at 7d. the yard. Most of them perfectly fast colours. The same precisely were selling early in the season at 1s. 2d. Patterns free.

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**SILK DRESSES for MORNING or EVEN-
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Violet, Green, Buff, Blue, Brown, White, and Black grounds, at 35s. 9d. the full dress. Paris present price, 60 francs. Patterns sent.

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One Shilling each, post free for extra stamp.

CARTES of Revs. Newman Hall, Samuel

Martin, C. H. Spurgeon, Thomas Binney, Dr. Cumming, W. M. Punshon, Henry Allon. Cartes of every celebrity published at 1s. and 1s. 6d. each. Stereoscopes, Slides, Albums. A series of about 2,000 Cartes from celebrated paintings, 6d. each. Scraps in endless variety. Portraits taken daily. Frederick Jones, 146, Oxford-street, W.

TWELVE CARTES DE VISITE for 2s. 8d.;

50 Bijou Portraits, 3s. 2d.; Daguerreotypes, &c., 1s. extra. Carte enlarged to elegant size Cabinet Picture, 5s.; two copies, 7s. 6d. Send carte, with stamps. Perfect Copies and Original returned free.—The London Company, 304, Regent-street, W.—L. PHILLIPS, Manager.

NOTICE.—SIX PORTRAITS, 1s. 8d.;

Twelve, 2s. 8d., post free.—INDEPENDENT PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY. Send Carte and Stamps. Perfect Copies, with original, can fully returned. Carte enlarged, 10 by 8 inches, 7s. 6d. Glass, Daguerreotypes, and other Pictures, 1s. extra. Medallions, 25 for 2s. 8d.—Address, London Office, 18, Queen-street, Cheapside.

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AND AWARDED THE PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.



LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.—Established 1836.

Subscribed Capital, £1,875,000, in 37,500 Shares of £50 each.

Paid-up Capital £750,000.
Reserve Fund £250,000.**DIRECTORS.**Nathaniel Alexander, Esq., John Fleming, Esq.,
John Edmund Anderson, Esq., Frederick Harrison, Esq.,
Thos. Tyringham Bernard, Esq., Edward John Hughes, Esq.,
Philip Patton Blyth, Esq., Wm. Champion Jones, Esq.,
John Wm. Burmester, Esq., William Lee, Esq., M.P.,
Coles Child, Esq., William Nicol, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER—William M'Kewan, Esq.

CHIEF INSPECTOR—W. J. Norfolk, Esq.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER—William Howard, Esq.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT—James Gray, Esq.

INSPECTORS OF BRANCHES.

H. J. Lemon, Esq., and C. Sherring, Esq.

SECRETARY—F. Clappison, Esq.

Head Office—21, Lombard-street.

At the Half-yearly General Meeting of the Proprietors, held on Thursday, the 2nd August, 1866, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, the following Report for the Half-year ending the 30th June, 1866, was read by the Secretary.

William Nicol, Esq., in the chair.

REPORT.

The Directors, in submitting to the proprietors the balance-sheet of the Bank for the half-year ending the 30th June last, have to report that, after payment of all charges, interest to customers, and making ample provision for bad and doubtful debts, the net profits amount to £23,440 17s. 8d.; this, with £14,527 18s. 10d. brought forward from the last account, produces a total of £37,968 16s. 6d.

They have declared the usual dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year, with a bonus in addition of 5 per cent. (equal to 22 per cent. per annum), which will amount to £22,500, and leave £15,468 16s. 6d. to be carried forward to profit and loss new account.

Mr. John Edmund Anderson has been elected a member of the board.

Mr. Hugh C. E. Childers, M.P., who retired from the Direction on assuming the position of Secretary to the Treasury in the late Government, being now relieved from the duties of his office, will, at the unanimous request of the Directors, resume his seat at the board.

The dividend and bonus (together £24s. per share), free of income-tax, will be payable at the Head Office, or at any of the branches, on and after Monday, the 13th instant.

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, 30th JUNE, 1866.

Dr.		
To capital paid up	£750,000	0 0
To reserve fund	250,000	0 0
To amount due by the bank for customers' balances, &c.	£10,718,483	16 1
To liabilities on acceptances	2,082,490	10 1
		12,750,974 6 2
To profit and loss balance brought from last account	£14,527	18 10
To gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	848,810	10 10
		362,838 9 8
		£14,118,812 15 10
Cr.		
By cash on hand at head office and branches	£2,149,216	5 1
By cash placed at call and at notice	883,896	5 9
		£2,032,612 10 10
Investments, viz:—		
By government and guaranteed stocks	£194,881	17 3
By other stocks and securities	99,808	13 11
		294,689 11 2
By discounted bills and advances to customers in town and country	10,410,772	8 0
By freehold premises, in Lombard-street and Nicholas-lane, freehold and leasehold property at the branches, with fixtures and fittings	154,078	18 0
By interest paid to customers	126,581	10 5
By salaries and all other expenses at head office and branches, including income-tax on profits and salaries	94,076	17 5
		£14,118,812 15 10

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To interest paid to customers	£126,581	10 5
To expenses as above	94,076	17 5
To rebate on bills not due, carried to new account	£42,211	5 4
To dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year	45,000	0 0
To bonus of 5 per cent.	37,500	0 0
To balance carried forward	17,468	16 6
		£262,838 9 8

Cr.		
By balance brought forward from last account	£14,527	18 10
By gross profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts	848,810	10 10
		£862,838 9 8

We, the undersigned, have examined the foregoing balance-sheet, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) WILLIAM NORMAN, } Auditors.
B. H. SWAINE, }

London and County Bank, July 26, 1866.

The foregoing Report having been read by the Secretary, the following resolutions were proposed and unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Report be received and adopted, and printed for the use of the Shareholders.
2. That the capital of this Banking Company be increased by the creation of 30,000 additional shares of £50 each; and that such shares be issued at such times and in such manner as may be determined at some annual or half-yearly general meeting, or at an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders called and held in accordance with the provisions of the deed of settlement.

3. That the thanks of this meeting be given to the Board of Directors for the able manner in which they have conducted the affairs of the Company.

4. That the thanks of this meeting be presented to William M'Kewan, Esq., and to the Principal and other Officers of the Bank, for the zeal and ability with which they have discharged their respective duties.
(Signed) W. NICOL, Chairman.

The Chairman having quitted the chair, it was resolved and carried unanimously.

5. That the cordial thanks of this meeting be presented to William Nicol, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the chair.
(Signed) W. CHAMPION JONES, Deputy Chairman.

Extracted from the Minutes.

(Signed) F. CLAPPISON, Secretary.

LONDON and COUNTY BANKING COMPANY.—NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a DIVIDEND on the Capital Stock of the Company, at the rate of 6 per cent. for the Half-year ending the 30th June, 1866, with a BONUS of 5 per cent., WILL be PAID to the Proprietors, either at the Head Office, 21, Lombard-street, or at any of the Company's Branch Banks, on and after Monday, the 13th inst.By order of the Board,
W. M'KEWAN, General Manager.
21, Lombard-street, August 8, 1866.**BRITISH EQUITABLE ASSURANCE COMPANY.**

47 and 48, KING WILLIAM-STREET, E.C.

Capital Fund, a Quarter of a Million.

DIRECTORS.George Thomas Dale, Esq., Bayswater.
Edmund Dunn, Esq., Waddon.
William Gover, Esq., Lee, Kent.
William Sutton Gover, Esq., 47, King William-street.
John Middleton Hare, Esq., Forest-hill.
Fountain John Hartley, Esq., Dalston.
John Smither, Esq., Wellclose-square.
Joseph Warrington, Esq., Lee-grove, Blackheath.**MANAGING DIRECTOR AND ACTUARY.**

William Sutton Gover, Esq., F.S.S., F.I.A.

AUDITORS.Samuel Biddome, Esq., Mansion House.
Charles Brown, Esq., Waddon.
William George Lemon, Esq., Blackheath.**BANKERS.**

The London and Westminster Bank (London Bridge.)

PHYSICIAN.

William Munk, Esq., M.D., F.S.A. (Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London), 40, Finsbury-square.

SURGEON.

Thomas Carr Jackson, Esq. (Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital), 8, Weymouth-street, Portland-place.

Accumulated Fund, £110,000.

The Accumulated Fund is equal to about 50 per cent. of the entire premiums received on policies in force on December 31 last.

SOVEREIGN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. (Founded 1845, and empowered by special Act of Parliament.)

The income of the Company from all sources is £100,000.

The amount assured in 1862 was	£151,065
Ditto 1863	194,152
Ditto 1864	266,450
Ditto 1865	290,920

Agents required in unrepresented places. Apply to the Branch Manager.

J. P. BOURNE, 9 Flora-place, Plymouth.

LONDON and GENERAL WATER PURIFYING COMPANY.

The Water we drink contains organic matter, Infusoria, Fungi, together with various mineral salts. Although sparkling to the eye and pleasant to the taste, it is unquestionably injurious to health and unfit for consumption as an article of diet. Chemistry and the microscope have of late revealed, moreover, that these cannot be removed by ordinary filters; such may render the water clear, but clearness is not indicative of purity. Filtration by ascension through animal charcoal under a peculiar mechanical arrangement, is the only mode by which organic matter as dissolved and contained in impure water can be removed. This is completely effected by the CISTERN FILTER of the LONDON and GENERAL WATER PURIFYING COMPANY, which has received the support of scientific and medical men, numbers of whom use the filters, and have given testimonials of its efficacy. These filters have been adopted in her Majesty's household, by other members of the Royal Family, and in the London military hospitals and barracks. No attention whatever is necessary on the part of servants, &c., under this system, as when the filter is once fixed it remains constant and self-acting.

Dr. Letheby writes, February 18, 1865:—"At the very first I perceived that the principles on which it is constructed are scientifically correct, and now, after a long experience of its action, I find that the operation of it is simple and certain."

Ordinary water when filtered by the Company's filter is incapable of acting injuriously upon lead pipes or metallic reservoirs.

Prices from 30s. to £4 10s. Household filters based on this principle from 12s. 6d. and upwards. The filter in operation, and every information, at the offices, 157, Strand, 4 doors from Somerset House.

PURE WATER AND CHOLERA.

BEFORE the Season gets further advanced, and this fearful epidemic overpreads our land, every family should be provided with RANSOME'S PATENT STONE WATER PURIFIER, by means of which an ample supply of Pure Water can be obtained without trouble, and at a very small cost. Dr. Snow, Frith-street, Soho, London (author of a work on the Communication of Cholera), says—"It is of great importance that every family should be provided with a good Filter, since the water, not only of rivers, but also that of wells, is liable to become contaminated. I have used one of Ransome's Patent Water Purifiers for some time, and am highly satisfied with its action. Besides rendering the water perfectly clear, by the separation of all the particles, however minute, that are suspended in it, this Filter also removes organic matter which is held in solution."

Apply to the Patentee, 2, Queen-street-place, Southwark-bridge, London, E.C.

Price from Five Shillings and upwards.

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This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE."

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Name are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

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PURE PICKLES, SAUCES, JAMS, &c.And Table Delicacies of the highest quality. See *Lancet* and Dr. Hassell's Report.

May be obtained from all Grocers and Oilmen, and wholesale of the Manufacturers,

CROSSE and BLACKWELL, Purveyors to the Queen, Soho-square, London.

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DINING-ROOM FURNITURE, In Oak and Mahogany.

DRAWING-ROOM FURNITURE, Complete Suites.

BEDROOM FURNITURE, Every Requisite.

LIBRARY FURNITURE, Modern and Antique.

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ATKINSON & CO. are prepared with their Summer Stock of Curtains—the new Pekinette Stripes for Drawing and Dining Rooms, Pekin and Persian Cloths, Muslin, Lace and Leno, with all the new Designs in this year's Chintzes.

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Every kind of material for covering hall or passage—FLOORCLOTH, CORK CARPET, LINOLEUM, and KAMPTULICON.

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ATKINSON and CO'S PATENT SPRING MATTRESS, Cool, Comfortable, and Economical.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE INDEMNITY BILL.

FOR more than a generation past the Indemnity Bill has made its appearance as if to mark the close of each successive Session. It has usually served as a point from which to look back, and trace the course of the year's ecclesiastical legislation. Parliament has probably seen it for the last time, and it rises above the horizon this Session, shorn of its usual proportions. Although Mr. Hadfield's seven years' labour has borne fruit, and his Qualification for Offices Abolition Bill is now the law of the land, the Act does not meet all the demands to obviate the inconveniences of which an annual Indemnity Bill has been necessary. It simply abolished the Declaration which was imposed on State and Municipal Officers in lieu of the Sacramental Test. That, however, was not the only form in which the fears of the Church exacted guarantees from servants of the State. Roman Catholicism was thought to need restraint not less than Dissent, and there yet remain several Acts requiring the professors of the former to bind their tongues and their hands in respect of their religion before taking upon themselves official responsibility. Lord Derby intimated his desire that they should share the fate of the restrictions abolished by the Bill of the hon. member for Sheffield. He has not yet seen fit to act upon his own suggestion, and hence the reappearance, in a curtailed shape, of the Indemnity Bill.

Our readers, we take for granted, are most of them familiar enough with the general scope of that measure. It gave validity to official acts performed by men who had not qualified themselves by taking the Oaths, or making the Declarations, required by the Legislature, and it indemnified them in respect of any penalties they might have thereby incurred. It annually undid with one hand what had been done by the other. It served as a periodical retraction of securities which the law had given to calm the apprehensions of the Established Church. It deliberately cancelled the promissory notes of the legislative authority, and said, "I won't" in detail, in respect of what it had said, "I will" in general. It was, in fact, the practical comment of statesmanship upon the stupid jealousies and craven fears of churchmanship. The representatives of the latter could not be content, could not feel safe, unless protected by a variety of disabling oaths or assurances, by which they took bail of persons employed by the State or by Municipal Corporations, that they would not use the influence which office should give them to endanger in any way the Church established by law. The representatives of the former deemed it politic to yield to these narrow-minded ecclesiastical clamours, but took care, by the Indemnity Act, to deprive their concession of all practical force. The consequence has been to bring the majesty of law under contempt, and, by pleasing the State clergy on the one hand, to cast a slur upon legal sanctions on the other. The spirit of the age loudly condemns this double-dealing, and still more loudly

repudiates the jealous exclusiveness which makes it necessary. The Indemnity Act is but a bungling method of rebuking the selfish fears of trembling ecclesiastics. It is felt by those who pass it to be *infra dignitatem*. It will be got rid of by getting rid of all the impositions which have made it hitherto indispensable.

It is worthy of remark that the country is not indebted to the Church for what has already been done towards putting an end to this absurd and mischievous anomaly, nor does it look to the Church to accomplish what yet remains to be done. By no one of the organs, official or unofficial, by which the Established Church usually indicates her will to society, by no one of the methods by which she is wont to signify her desires, has the Church forwarded the change we are now commenting upon. Her influence and her action have all gone in the opposite direction. It would have been a graceful act, one that would have made a most gratifying and beneficial moral impression, had the overture to do away with all ecclesiastical restrictions upon the holders of office come from the Church herself. It would have been evidence of a marvellous expansion of faith and trust and love, not, indeed, as compared with what the world has a right to expect from the legally authorised expositors of Christianity, but as compared with what they had habitually displayed. The Church might very properly have initiated and conducted a movement towards increased freedom. She might have done so safely enough. She must have discovered long since that all the securities she exacts by means of law, especially on behalf of objects that are disapproved of by public opinion, are utterly worthless. She can hardly have failed to notice that the fetters she got the legislature to put upon those who doubted or denied her right to supremacy, irritated even where they had not power to restrain. Had she been wise she might at least have made a merit of necessity, and have freely offered what she had lost the ability to turn to account. But no! There is a fatality in politico-ecclesiastical institutions which evermore prevents their ruling authorities from being wise in time. The Church stood in the way of this slight reform with characteristic pertinacity. Instead of stretching forth a helping hand to Mr. Hadfield, she affected to view his proposals with alarm, and when one of her special friends expressed a wish to retain, "as a bridge upon the consciences of Dissenters," the Declaration which that hon. member sought to abolish, she never in any way disclaimed participation in that wish. It is doubtful whether, if she had the power, she would not reimpose the obligations which the Legislature has remitted. At any rate, she can hardly be regarded as having been in any respect a consenting party to what has been done. Not by her, but in spite of her, the absurd anomaly has been in part abolished, and in part put in the way of abolition.

The re-introduction of the Indemnity Bill in a modified form reminds us that the political instincts of the age are more liberal than the ecclesiastical. The thoughts of the people in their capacity as a State, are juster than their thoughts in their capacity as a Church. The House of Commons is more disposed to promote freedom and religious equality than Convocation, Ministers than Bishops, Peers than cathedral dignitaries, members of Parliament than clergymen. It is a pity that it should be so. It is a sad stigma upon the State-Church. It is even a proof that Christianity finds a reader and a truer representation of its spirit among the laity than among those whom law has appointed to be their teachers. Who can wonder, then, that they who sigh for complete freedom in regard to the ecclesiastical policy of the country should instinctively turn, not to the Established Church, but to the people? Who can affect surprise that the agencies on which they mainly rely are political? There is hope of the nation—there is none of the Church. The attributes of the one—to the shame of ecclesiastics be it spoken—are nobler than are those of the other—its aspirations are more in accordance with the Royal law—"Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you"—its prejudices less bitter—its jealousies less excitable.

Why is this? The cause is not to be found in the Ministerial office, nor in the normal relations of pastors to their flocks. It is distinctly traceable to the fundamental error of attempting to secure spiritual results by the employment of political means—to the infusion into what should be wholly moral in its modes of working of an antagonistic and compulsory element. The world detects the mistake long before the Church, and will correct it before the Church will have become cognisant of it. Restrictive legislation in matters of religion is representative of the clerical mind—indemnity for disregarding it is representative of the lay mind. The one is at present a set off against the other—but the time is close at hand when restriction having been abolished there will be no occasion for indemnity.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE House of Commons Committee on Education—to whose labours we have often, in these columns, made reference—has presented its report. The document is of the most curious character. The Committee was appointed, and it conducted its work when a Liberal Government was in power. The whole of the evidence having been taken, Sir John Pakington, the chairman, drew up a report for consideration. This report gave an extensive and fair summary of the evidence, and concluded with nine recommendations, to the following effect:—That the Committee of Council on Education should cease to exist, and that its place should be supplied by a Minister of Public Instruction, with a seat in the Cabinet; that the system of certified teachers should no longer stand in the way of the extension of education; that local educational organisations in connection with the Education Department should be established; that local rates should be permitted; that there should be a combination of parishes in small districts, with a circulating master, or a good central school; that the education endowments should be utilised; and, lastly,—8. That the difficulty caused by religious difference should be met by the compulsory adoption of the 'Conscience Clause' in every trust-deed, and the Education Minister being empowered to suspend the annual grant to any school on proof of exclusion or undue constraint of Nonconformists on religious grounds. 9. That the impediments to education in Wales, arising from the state of religious opinion in that country, should be met by the adoption, in a liberal spirit, of some plan similar to those suggested in the evidence and in this report."

This report is suggestive of more extended criticism than we could give to it in this place, and, as it was not adopted, more than it now requires. It is hardly possible, however, to dismiss it without remarking that it indicates a very great advance of opinion. There is not much in it that was not contained in the report of the Education Commission. If it had been adopted, and the late Government had brought in a measure to give effect to its recommendations, its drift and tendency would have been in favour of a gradual disconnection of the State with education. The recommendation that the Privy Council Committee should be dissolved is in harmony with views that have long been advocated in the columns of this journal; the modification of the teacher-certificate system would be another blow to the training colleges; we can, on the whole, trust parishes not to make educational, when they are abandoning Church rates, and trust them, under a new system, to make the most of their educational endowments. The eighth recommendation is an emphatic recognition of the claims of religious equality, and is all the more gratifying that it is made by a Conservative statesman. The Welsh question we leave for the present, but the tone of the paragraph which deals with it suggests that

there is no inclination to accede to the demands of some Churchmen on this subject.

Why was this report not adopted? The reason is candidly divulged in the report which was adopted. A Liberal Government might have been expected to give effect to some of its recommendations, but before the Committee could decide upon accepting it the Liberal Government went out and a Tory Government came in. It then appears to have occurred to the Committee that it would be quite useless to adopt such a report. Sir Stafford Northcote therefore drew up another, in which the various points on which evidence had been taken were referred to, and the opinion expressed that it would be undesirable to disturb and unsettle the public mind if there was no probability of knowing the conclusions which the Legislature might be expected to adopt. The opinion of her Majesty's present Government is not known, and it is therefore suggested that nothing should be done until the present Government shall have considered the whole question. When they have done this, it is broadly hinted that the Committee may draw up a report which the Government may adopt. Such an instance of want of self-respect, such self-stultification, such barefaced ignoring of public duty, has probably never before been illustrated by any Committee of the House of Commons. It amounts to a declaration that, be the evidence what it may, the recommendations upon it are to be not in accordance with the evidence, but in accordance with the views of the Government for the time being. We can only, in charity, express the hope that, in the hurry to get away, the Committee paid no attention to what was being read to them. Educational Reform is therefore shelved. It is not a subject in which Sir Stafford Northcote would ever be likely to gain distinction, and his report clearly indicates that he has no present intention of becoming a bold reformer. For ourselves, we should not altogether object to seeing this subject thoroughly handled by the Tories. State education has been mainly a Whig hobby. The Whigs have had almost the sole management of the Privy Council system since it was first instituted. It would be quite possible to have it better managed, and quite possible that a Tory administration of it would end in some results more in accordance with our own views than that of any Liberal administration which has existed since the first Order in Council of 1837.

On the occasion of the opening of a new Free Church at Saltash, near Plymouth, last week, Mr. J. B. Jeffrey, of Liverpool, did what we wish were oftener done on such occasions,—he gave a Vindication of Modern Nonconformity. Mr. Jeffrey showed how it had come to be what it is, and what it had done for England and her colonies. To one subject he drew, at the close of his speech, especial attention—the condition of the rural districts:—

It had been said that if the rural districts were left entirely to the care of Dissenters they would be allowed to starve, and from the previous treatment which these districts had received at their hands, he was afraid there was too much truth in the remarks. Were they, then, prepared to make the necessary provision? He ventured to hope that they would be, and in order to accomplish so desirable an object there must be some system and the arrangement of some scheme, and he would venture to suggest to them that a committee should be appointed, who should take charge of the rural districts, both of Devon and Cornwall—considering the two counties to be one in that respect—and that the committee should establish two distinct funds—one for the purpose of erecting suitable and acceptable buildings as near as possible after the model of that in which they were then assembled, and the other to give auxiliary aid to the various congregations, and to the support of the ministry, taking care that the ministry should be an educated one. This was the responsibility that must be fairly looked in the face, and all preparation should be made.

This is an opportunity for repeating what we have more than once said,—that no work of the Established Church, as a Church, is more grossly exaggerated than her work in the rural districts. In large numbers—perhaps the majority—of country parishes the existence of an Episcopalian Church is synonymous with one of two things,—an ultra-ritualism, which is leading the people as fast as possible to Rome, or torpor in religion and activity in all immoral practices. It is an institution for the prevention of religious effort, and an obstacle to the progress of the Gospel. It is a bulwark of Toryism and intolerance. There are, of course, very great and very beautiful exceptions to this. There are clergymen, as there are Dissenting ministers, with both the spirit and the zeal of a George Herbert. Two hundred years ago, there was, perhaps, only one Bemerton in all England; now there are probably hundreds. But, as a whole, the existence of a State Church in rural parishes, with the ecclesiastical exclusiveness which is necessarily connected with it, has not been of more advantage for religion than its existence in the towns.

Mr. Jeffrey is quite right. The rural districts have to be taken in hand by the Free Churches, but it would not, we think, be difficult to prove that those churches are doing, at the present time, far more than the churches connected with the Government of the country.

We give a condensed report of an interesting and satisfactory discussion in the Newcastle Town Council, on Corporation Grants for Religious Purposes. A motion was made in favour of a donation towards the erection of a church in the neighbourhood. As soon as the mover had made his speech, Mr. Morrison made the timely remark, that a deputation of Dissenters had waited on the Council, and told them that they required no help from that body. An amendment against all such grants was moved by Mr. Tone, who rightly said that it was never intended that corporations should have the power to vote money for such purposes, and Mr. Harford pithily remarked that "the sooner a Church that could not raise funds to propagate itself was dead, the better." The discussion soon took, as it was likely after this to do, a broad range, and the Corporation chamber became for the time an arena for the discussion of the justice and expediency of grants for religious purposes generally, and incidentally on the character of the Established Church. Ultimately the amendment was carried by a majority of one. This disposed of a grant of 100*l.* Next came the question of a grant of 30*l.* to another church, which was very briefly debated and very summarily settled, the motion for the grant being lost by a large majority. Taking the discussions and the votes together, the friends of the Church have not gained by their action. We should be sorry, if we were a Newcastle Churchman, to have run the risk of such a debate for a miserable 130*l.*, even if we had been sure of getting the money.

We see that the Evangelical Court Christians of Prussia are asking the sympathy of English Christians on account of the military successes of their King. Probably the most profane and heathen documents ever issued from the press are those in which the "God of Battles" is adored and thanked with reference to the results of war. The King of Prussia, who dragged the Almighty into what he considered a special recognition of himself when he assumed his crown, has done the same now that he has killed nearly a hundred thousand of his fellow creatures, and, like Ahab, is filching the territories of his neighbours. The piety of these documents is of exactly the same order as that of the speeches of Homer's heroes. The God of Love and Mercy is, to these men, a Jupiter and nothing more. The difference between the King's speech on Sunday to the Parliament whom he has been illegally controlling, and that of the Evangelical Churchmen of Berlin, is that the Churchmen make Jupiter a Protestant, just as the Roman Catholic priest in Vienna, who ascribed the Austrian defeat to the Protestantism of Benedek, makes him a Roman Catholic. We are thus told:—

To-day there was a thanksgiving service in all the churches of the kingdom for the victory of Sadowa. Our pastor preached from the words, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." The question whether we ought to refer this brilliant victory in a special sense to the Divine interposition, he answered by saying that the brilliant deeds of the army on the present occasion were no accident, as it were, standing by itself alone, but the fruit of a long series of Divine blessings, for which the Prussians had to thank the Gospel. It was the peculiar object of the Gospel, in one aspect of it, to stir up and develop all the faculties of men, which had been the case in Prussia, as nowhere else on the continent; and in this conviction we must regard the universal response by the nation to the call to arms as the result of the Evangelical spirit. In Prussia this is certainly the case.

What a very "Evangelical spirit"! An Evangel of needle-guns!

THE NEWCASTLE CORPORATION AND ECCLESIASTICAL GRANTS.

At the quarterly meeting of the Corporation of Newcastle-on-Tyne on Wednesday, Mr. Alderman HODGSON proposed that the council should make a donation of 100*l.* towards the fund being raised for the erection of a church at Howdon, for the Willington estate. He argued that there were special reasons in favour of the grant, and that they had made a grant to a Roman Catholic chapel on the same estate, and also to a Methodist chapel to a larger extent than they proposed to do in the present instance.

The motion having been seconded by Mr. Alderman INGLEDEW, Mr. MORRISON drew the attention of the council to the counter memorial which had been presented to them in this matter, by several persons in Willington and Howdon, who said they wanted no donations whatever from the Corporation, but rather that the Corporation should confine itself to its own legitimate purpose, which was cleansing, governing, and sewerage the town, and not in build-

ing churches or chapels there. He (Mr. Morrison) had been accustomed as much as any man in that room to the working classes, and he could tell them that had they built twenty churches they would not get ten of those men there. There was too much ceremony, which was more for the genteel and rich; it was not for the poor man. He went to the Dissenting chapel, where he was received with hearty good will, and there he entered into the services with devotional feeling. Let them attend to the management of the affairs of the Corporation, and let the Church take charge of its own business.

Mr. J. F. TONE proposed an amendment:—"That in the opinion of this council it is not desirable that the Corporation funds should be expended in the support of the special interests of any religious body whatever." He proposed this amendment because he considered that they had no right to spend the funds of the Corporation in any such manner. It was quite true that they had made grants to other denominations. That might be considered as acting fairly, but his opinion was that they should give to no party whatever.

Mr. G. HARFORD seconded the amendment. He very much regretted that a subject of that kind had been brought before the council again, as it was only two or three years ago that there was a decided understanding that these subjects should not be resumed.

Mr. SANDERSON supported the amendment. He regretted, however, that the question had not arisen with reference to the Dissenting church. He himself, being a Dissenter, should have been still more glad if this had been a Dissenting place of worship. At the same time, he felt it to be his duty to take the view that Mr. Tone had on this occasion adopted, viz., that they were thoroughly going beyond their province in supporting any religious body whatever. The council had made grants to nearly every Dissenting body, and it could not be said that they had exhibited any partiality, but he thought they would introduce an element of discord into the town at large to a greater extent than they were aware of if they adopted the course pointed out by the motion.

Mr. Alderman PHILLIPSON cordially supported the original motion. There was no principle at stake, as Dissenters had received the benefit of their funds.

Mr. HODGE, as a member of the Church of England, must support the amendment. He was of opinion that the best friends of the Church of England must feel a little ashamed to have found introduced into that council a discussion which had taken such a turn as that on the question before them. (Hear, hear.) If anything was wanting to prove to his mind the impropriety of the council making grants to different religious denominations, it was supplied in the discussion of that day. (Hear, hear.) He was convinced that the council was not the proper arena for the deliberation of matters of that kind. It did not make any difference whether they wished to give 100*l.* to the Church of England or the Jewish Synagogue, because they were the owners of the soil upon which such place stood; no matter what the object, so long as it related to religion, a discussion must take place, in order that members might be informed of the merits of the subject, and that discussion must give rise to expression of feeling. For the purpose of getting rid of discussions of that kind—which notoriously, from month to month, rendered them unable to get to the close of the business on the paper before they adjourned—he should feel himself called upon on all occasions to vote against grants being made for religious purposes. He suggested that the amendment should be altered so as to read as follows:—"That in the opinion of this council it is inexpedient that the corporate funds be subscribed to any religious body." Mr. Tone accepted the alteration.

Mr. Alderman BELL, whilst ready to admit the remarks of Mr. Tone and Mr. Harford as being of great weight, believed the day was rapidly approaching when they would be able to get out of the difficulty which presented itself of administering the Corporation funds by the making of grants for religious purposes, and argued that this was an exceptional case, as the Council, by making the offer of the land, had to a certain extent bound itself. They should now put themselves into the position which they formerly occupied when they first proceeded to deal with the subject.

Mr. JOS. COWEN, jun., said he was extremely surprised that a Church having bishops—many of whom were in the receipt of vast incomes—should come there to ask for money. He thought it reflected upon their liberality and dignity to come there in *fermā pauperis*. Mr. Alderman Bell had admitted the soundness of the argument as to the inadvisability of making grants for religious purposes, but he was of opinion that it was their duty to give in this instance as the people in that locality were poor. ("No.") He (Mr. Cowen) was not sorry that the Church of England should be the first to suffer. If it had not been rich, he could have understood the necessity of such an application being made, but as it was the wealthiest Church in Christendom, he could not understand it. He took the position Mr. Harford had asserted in the matter as a sound one: they were there as trustees and as guardians of the public purse. They had certain duties to perform—they had to provide for the administration of justice, they had to preserve public order, to keep the town clear of disease, and generally to attend to matters of a sanitary and commercial character. Those were the duties they had to perform, and the money that was given to them was for these purposes. They were there as representatives of all sections of the

community, of Protestants and Catholics, of Churchmen and Dissenters, and they could not act with fairness if they gave money to one and not another, and they could not, and would not, give to all. Mr. Alderman Hodgson had said that he thought they ought to give the money because there was a number of poor people, or working men, who would attend the church. He felt sure that Mr. Hodgson knew that the working men, as a body, had no attachment to the Church of England. The working men might be members of Dissenting places of worship, either Methodists, Congregationalists, or Roman Catholics, but they never would be members of a Church supported in the manner in which the Church of England was. There was something altogether antagonistic in the spirit of the Established Church to the working classes. Its forms and ceremonies, and the sympathies and sentiments of its leading members, were directly opposed to those which the working men believed in. It was incorrect to say that the working men as a body would receive any benefit from such a church as that at Howdon. Only a section of the community would do so, and that section was a very small one. (Hear, hear.) He did not remember the exact figures, but he believed at a former census an attempt was made to count all the people who attended the different places of worship. (A voice: In 1851.) What, he would ask, then, was the result of that counting in this district? Why that only one-fourth (and that one-fourth, he should remark, included the women and children of the population) attended any place of worship at all. Thus there were three-fourths of the people who did not attend either church or chapel, and of the one-fourth that did attend places of worship, not even one-half went to the Church of England. If they then considered that not one-half of the one-fourth of the people who attended any place of worship went to the Church of England, there was no reason why all those who dissented from its doctrines, and were opposed to its church government, should be called upon to contribute to its maintenance. He had always been opposed to the granting of any sums of money to any religious body whatever. Their opponents said that grants had been made to Methodists, Roman Catholics, and other Dissenting chapels. That might be so, but as a rule—and here he would appeal to all those members of the council who were cognisant of those proceedings—if there had not been a manifest tendency on the part of that council to give larger sums to the Church of England than to others. (Hear, hear.) Whatever might have been the letter, that certainly had been the spirit in which they had acted. (Hear.)

Mr. W. L. HARLE said he used to support all such grants, but the council had declined a contribution to the Methodists in Shieldfield, and he now agreed that the sooner the subject was put an end to by refusing the grant, and showing that such applications could not be tolerated, the better.

Mr. Alderman HODGSON, in reply, expressed his astonishment at what seemed to be the springing up of a new born zeal on the part of some of the members with regard to their view of religious matters. If the Corporation could not contribute 100% to an object like that when it had contributed to chapels, the sooner it closed its doors the better.

The amendment was then put to the vote and carried by 22 to 21.

Mr. Alderman BELL had given notice that he should move that a donation of 30% be made to St. Andrew's Restoration Fund. He remarked that he thought he should best consult the interests of the council by taking a silent vote on the subject. The motion was then put, and lost.

The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, from which we have condensed the above report, regards this decision as final against any future ecclesiastical grants by the Corporation.

THE METHODIST ASSEMBLIES.

The further proceedings of the Wesleyan Conference at Leeds last week were not of general interest. On Monday, the session was occupied with the examination of ministerial character and eligibility. In the evening the public examination of probationers, candidates for ordination at this Conference, was held in the St. Peter's and Brunswick Chapels, Leeds. They were sixty-seven in number, thirty-four of whom were allocated to the latter chapel, and thirty-three to the former. A very crowded congregation assembled in the Brunswick Chapel, in which the examination was conducted by the President (the Rev. W. Arthur). On Tuesday, the assembly took into consideration the division of circuits, the creating of new circuits, the granting of additional men to circuits. Some new circuits have been formed in the London district. It was also determined to appoint a Wesleyan chaplain to the Guards, in London. There are between 4,000 and 5,000 of these in London, besides their wives and families; and, as many of them parade as Wesleyans, the military authorities have placed two schoolrooms in Wellington Barracks at the disposal of the Army Committee for Wesleyan services. On Wednesday an address on the subject of temperance was presented by the Leeds Temperance and Prohibition Society, and a suitable reply ordered to be prepared. The Conference then entered upon the consideration of the state of the work of God in the Methodist societies. The Rev. J. W. Greeves read the minutes of the different district meetings, containing suggestions and recommendations bearing upon this subject. He also read the statistics of the num-

ber in society, &c. He stated that there were members of society, 331,193; on trial for membership, 20,819. In sixteen districts there had been an increase of 2,962, and in fifteen districts a decrease of 2,596, so that there had been in the year an increase of 366. On Thursday morning the public ordination of candidates for the ministry who have completed their probationary term, and successfully passed through the theological and other examinations at the present sitting of Conference, took place in Oxford-place Chapel. Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, the chapel was crowded to overflowing by those spectators who were fortunate enough to obtain tickets of admission. The President read the ordination service, and completed the ceremony in the usual manner; after which the ex-President (the Rev. W. Shaw) delivered the charge to the newly-ordained ministers. In the course of his discourse—

He urged the study of the standard theological writings, which have become sacred classics. He advised a correct and extensive acquaintance with general literature, for hearers who found they had this would repose more confidence in their Scripture teachings. Some had thought that the Methodists were unfavourable to literary and scientific pursuits, but they who thus spoke calumniated Methodism. Only when the choice lay between some clear statement of God's Word and an opposing dictum of science, they said, "Let God be true, and every man a liar." They were not to be mere students, but preachers. Many had, in earlier ages, too far contented themselves with liturgies and litanies; but in truth, preaching was as much a Divine ordinance as praying. The man who proposed to attain a great religious end without applying the appropriate means was a fanatic, and he said, "We cannot afford to sustain a body of fanatical Methodist preachers." They wanted men of "sound mind, sound speech that cannot be condemned." In speaking of apostolical succession, he said, Piety does not arise from the office, but personal piety is an indispensable qualification for the office. In the apostolic age men were not regarded as holy or sacred because they were ordained, but they were first to be holy, "called to be saints"—that is, converted and saved believers—before they were ordained.

As a proof of fraternal intercourse, the Rev. Eustace Conder, of Leeds, applied for a Wesleyan minister to take his pulpit on Sunday evening last. The President appointed the Rev. Frederick Greeves to this service. The next annual assembly is to be held at Bristol.

A writer in the *Unitarian Herald*, who attended one of the prayer-meetings of the Conference, sends a note of his observations. We give an extract or two:—

The new President, the Rev. W. Arthur, A.M., occupied the chair. He is just the man you would imagine, after reading his speeches and hearing of him in the papers. He is certainly a new kind of a man in the position of President of the Wesleyan Conference. He is the first of their Presidents who has received his education in their own educational institution. His "get-up" is neat and trim almost to classicity. His organisation, physical and mental, is of a refined cast. Slenderly but proportionately built, with a small head, the part below the eyes being almost diminutive, yet greatly expressive; above the eye is a beautifully bright, round, lofty cranium, without an indentation or projection anywhere, so far as I could see. His manner is devoutness itself; the expression not distorted, but severely fixed. He seemed absolutely preoccupied with the duties of his position. While reading the hymns, and with his head bowed and motionless during prayer, he seemed conscious of nothing but the presence of God. Neither his speaking nor reading is in the Methodist manner; he reads the sense, and not the rhyme, and this without affectation or effort; and he speaks with the naturalness, and, withal, refinement of a gentleman and a scholar.

To the left of the President, some three or four between, sat Mr. Punshon. He made no effort to look important, very quietly subsiding into the crowd of ministers, well-tried and venerable, who in that assembly had evidently a higher place than he. Yet those beetling brows, and the powerful jaw and expressive mouth, indicated that at the word of command from his chief he could rise up and charge like those famous warriors whose fame he so likes to recite in Macaulay's battle lays. His eyes, strikingly small, twinkle kindly, and the changing expression of his features kept fully in sympathy with the earnest but not eloquent prayers of his brethren.

Other noteworthy men were on the platform, but their names did not transpire. One was the very image of good old Abe Lincoln. So strikingly different from all the rest did he seem, that I wondered upon what possible principle of selection he had got elected into the "Legal Hundred"; but he was evidently a man of power. Conspicuous through the part they took in the meeting, were Dr. Scott and Mr. Rattenbury. The former prayed very heartily for a revival in the connexion—a revival to characterise that Conference, and to commence in that very meeting. I read in the papers the day following that the President after his election asked those who should pray not to mention his name in a complimentary manner in their prayers. He thought such matters did not reach the ear of God. There was evident need for this warning, for the good Dr. Scott could not help telling God that the Conference represented "the whole Methodist Connexion—the whole Methodist Connexion throughout the world." Mr. Rattenbury was the first called upon to pray. He stands very stately and self-possessed; a tall, powerful man, with a pleasing modesty of manner. His prayer was quiet, but earnest, and you could tell that you had a man before you who had done much towards pulling down the strongholds of sin in his time.

The meeting lasted only an hour. There was no display of effort in it; it was well conducted, and closed without a spasm. The brevity of the meeting, together with the interest I felt in it, left me opportunity to note but few things. There seemed very little old-type Methodism about it, and yet the doctrinal distinctions were always apparent. One thing which struck me was the effect of Methodism upon the countenances of the ministers. Contrary to my expectations, there were all sorts of faces. But you could everywhere see the

marks of the Methodist chisel upon the original sculpture of nature. There were plenty of indications of intellect, but it was in all cases tightly strung up by the powerful ligaments of the Methodist type of orthodoxy. There were plenty of indications of character; in many cases there seemed very strong passion, held in as with bit and bridle. Very few of the faces were such as one would like to see in a jury empanelled to try a case of heresy.

Each of those who prayed, as he concentrated his energies upon the one leading petition in all the prayers, not only reached fervour but agony. Not in loudness of voice, or fierceness of gesture, or in needless repetition of words, but in spirit, these men really wrestled with God. The one cry to God was, "The fault, O Lord, is ours, whatever it be; correct it, we beseech, at whatever cost to us!" The feeling seemed to be that through some shortcoming the connexion has forfeited God's favour.

The United Methodist Free Churches have continued their conference at Sheffield, and the proceedings closed on Friday. In the report of the Chapel Fund Committee, it was stated that forty new chapels had been erected in the past twelve months, at a cost of 40,000*l.*, and eighteen enlarged. It was also stated that the fund for home and foreign missions last year was 10,418*l.*, and the expenditure 7,881*l.* The next sitting of the conference is to be held at Manchester. Several circuits presented memorials as to the temperance movement, which memorials were heartily responded to by the assembly, and an appropriate resolution passed thereon. The Rev. J. Garside, of Bristol, read a statement as to the spiritual state of the connexion, from which it appeared that there is an increase on the year of sixty-eight members. The smallness of this increase was an occasion of deep regret to the members of the assembly, and a series of resolutions were proposed by the connexional secretary and adopted, having special reference to this matter. The 1st of Oct. was appointed as a day of humiliation and prayer. One of the most interesting discussions in the Conference related to the proposed amalgamation with the Methodist New Connexion, a project which has been under discussion, but delayed owing, it is said, to the coolness of the New Connexion body. In forwarding a copy of the resolutions on Union adopted at the late New Connexion Conference at Birmingham, the President of that body (the Rev. Mr. Hulme) said:—

Between you and us there is, I think, a substantial agreement, as our differences, if I understand them, are rather formal than fundamental, and relate more to the application of principles than to those principles themselves; the obstacles to the union of the two bodies are, therefore, not insuperable; and if we are wise to know that which is best calculated to promote the strength and usefulness of both denominations, our union will not be long delayed.

In the Free Churches assembly on Monday the subject was taken up. A resolution, proposed by L. B. Sharpley, Esq., of Louth, was so unsatisfactory, that the Rev. W. Reed, editor of the periodicals of the Association, moved an amendment on the ground that the resolutions of the New Connexion Conference were too indefinite. Next day, Mr. Sharpley proposed the following resolution in lieu of the other:—

That, believing in the essential unity of Christian truth, and remembering the prayer offered by our Divine Lord—that His disciples might be one, this annual assembly reverts with pleasure to the course pursued by the Assembly of 1863 and 1864 for promoting a union of the various sections of liberal Methodists, and cordially reciprocates the fraternal sentiments contained in the resolutions adopted by the Methodist New Connexion in June last. The Assembly also recommends the officers and members of the United Methodist Free Churches to cultivate brotherly love and friendly intercourse with all the liberal branches of Methodism, and being impressed with the conviction that the time has fully come when a more practical issue should be attempted, by correspondence or conference between the representatives of the New Connexion and the United Methodist Free Churches, it therefore requests the Connexional Committee to meet the annual committee of the New Connexion, should the said committee desire such a meeting.

Mr. Reed agreed very cordially to the resolution as proposed by Mr. Sharpley. The Rev. J. S. Whittington, the seconder of the amendment, was also prepared to support the altered proposal. After a long discussion, the resolution was put to the meeting, and carried well-nigh unanimously, there being only five dissentients.

The forty-eighth annual Conference of the Bible Christian denomination commenced its sittings in Stamford-street Chapel, Portsmouth, on Wednesday, July 25. The Conference was composed of forty-six ministers and nine representatives. Mr. M. Robins, who had satisfactorily filled the office of President three times previously, was unanimously elected President, and Mr. T. P. Oliver, Secretary. The ex-Secretary of Conference in his report furnished the following particulars—viz., that there are in connexion with the denomination 240 itinerant preachers, 1,691 local preachers, 756 chapels, 297 preaching places, 25,048 members, 1,050 on trial at midsummer—26,098 total, 8,279 teachers, 39,249 Sabbath-schoolers. 324 deaths have occurred during the year, and 791 emigrations. There is an increase of nine itinerant preachers, 18 local preachers, 12 chapels, 315 on trial, 286 total, 195 teachers, and 1,393 scholars; and a decrease of 16 preaching places, 14 deaths, 61 emigrations, and 49 members. The announcement that after all the sermons preached, money expended, machinery employed, and number admitted during the year, there were forty-nine approved members less than last year, occasioned considerable grief and disappointment. Seventeen new chapels have been reported as completed and opened during the year, also five school-rooms, three preaching-houses, and three cottages connected with the chapel property. Two chapels,

hitherto held as private property, have been placed in trust for the Connexion.

A BRAHMO ON CHRISTIANITY.

The *Friend of India* informs us that Baboo Khesub Chunder Sen, the apostle of the Bramhos, lately delivered an extempore lecture to his countrymen in the theatre of the Calcutta Medical College on "Jesus Christ—Europe and Asia." He sketched the state of the world at the birth of Christ, the life and death of the Saviour of the world, and the progress of the Church till the Reformation and of modern missions thereafter. As a Bramho, "avowedly differing from the orthodox opinions of popular Christianity," he used language like that of Channing and the better class of Unitarians. He said:—

Humanity was groaning under a deadly malady and was on the verge of death; a remedy was urgently needed to save it. Jesus Christ was thus a necessity of the age; he appeared in the fulness of time. It was no selfish impulse, from no spirit of mistaken fanaticism, that He bravely and cheerfully offered Himself to be crucified on the cross. He laid down His life that God might be glorified. (Hear, hear.) I have always regarded the cross as a beautiful emblem of self-sacrifice unto the glory of God, one which is calculated to quicken the higher feelings and aspirations of the heart and to purify the soul and I believe there is not a heart, how callous and hard soever it may be, that can look with cold indifference on that grand and significant symbol. (Applause.)

Referring to the martyrs, he said:—

It is such examples of martyr devotion which are calculated to dispel from our minds all cowardice, fickleness, and inconstancy, and to make us feel that truth is dearer than life itself. (Applause.)

In vivid terms he praised Luther and condemned Popery. He used such language as this:—

Is there a single soul in this large assembly who would scruple to ascribe extraordinary greatness and supernatural moral heroism to Jesus Christ and Him crucified? (Applause.) Was not He who by His wisdom illumined, and by His power saved a dark and wicked world—was not He who has left us such a priceless legacy of Divine truth and whose blood has wrought such wonders for eighteen hundred years—was not He above ordinary humanity? (Cheers.) Blessed Jesus, immortal child of God! For the world He lived and died. May the world appreciate Him and follow His precepts! (Applause.)

The lecturer in dealing with the "ethics" of Christ as applied to Europeans and natives, said:—

The many noble deeds of philanthropy and self-denying benevolence which Christian missionaries have performed in India, and the various intellectual, social, and moral improvements which they have effected, need no flattering comment; they are treasured in the gratitude of the nation, and can never be forgotten or denied. It is to the British Government that we owe our deliverance from oppression and misrule, from darkness and distress, from ignorance and superstition.

He described the life of a native as a round of selfish pursuits:—

Self-interest is generally the motive of his actions. I will not deny that perjury and forgery, lying and dishonesty, prevail to an alarming extent in our country; but I cannot believe they are traits of our national character.

He was no less severe on Europeans:—

I regard every European settler in India as a missionary of Christ, and I have a right to demand that he should always remember and act up to his high responsibilities. But alas! owing to the reckless conduct of a number of pseudo-Christians, Christianity has failed to produce any wholesome moral influence on my countrymen. Yes, their muscular Christianity has led many a native to identify the religion of Jesus with the power and privilege of inflicting blows and kicks with impunity. And thus Jesus has been dishonoured in India.

He added:—

I rejoice, yes, I am proud, that I am an Asiatic. And was not Jesus Christ an Asiatic? Yes, and His disciples were Asiatics, and all the agencies primarily employed for the propagation of the Gospel were Asiatic. In fact, Christianity was founded and developed by Asiatics and in Asia. When I reflect on this my love for Jesus becomes a hundred-fold intensified; I feel Him nearer my heart, and deeper in my national sympathies. Why should I then feel ashamed to acknowledge that nationality which He acknowledged?

He concluded by protesting against the denationalisation of native Christians. If even a hundred of the Brahmins who applauded these sentences are (says the *Friend of India*), honest men, Brahminism has passed far beyond Theodore Parker and is near to the kingdom of Heaven. The speaker we believe to be sincere. Of how many of his followers can we say the same?

THE COLENSO CASE.—It is understood that the Master of the Rolls will defer his judgment in the case of Bishop Colenso v. Mr. Gladstone, M.P., and others (the trustees of the Colonial Bishops' Fund), until after the long vacation.

THE EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE.—In compliance with the invitation of friends at Bath, the autumnal meeting of the British organization of the Evangelical Alliance will be held in that city. The conference will take place on the 16th of October and three following days.

MORE BISHOPS.—A meeting of the clergy of the Archdeaconry of Craven was held on Thursday at Leeds, to promote an increase of the Episcopate in the Northern Province. References were made by the speakers to the necessity for augmenting the number of bishops in consequence of the rapid increase of population in the northern manufacturing districts, and the large addition of clergymen,

throwing greater responsibility upon the existing bishops. Resolutions were adopted calling upon Convocation to take up the subject, and it was also determined to ask the committee of the Church Congress to give it an important place in the discussions at the next meeting at York.

THE SURREY TABERNACLE AND THE REGISTRAR.—It appears from a report of a meeting of the Benefit Society connected with the Surrey Tabernacle, of which the Rev. Mr. Wells, the High Baptist, is the pastor, that before anyone can become a member he must subscribe to a test of his belief in several abstruse points of doctrine, such as "effectual calling," "free grace," &c. The rules, however, having been submitted to Mr. Tidd Pratt previous to the enrolment of the society, he struck out the doctrinal tests; whereupon the Rev. Mr. Wells declared that these were the very corner-stone of the fabric, and the society was nothing without them.

CURATES' SALARIES.—"A Curate" writes to the *Guardian* on this subject as follows:—"In proof of the fact that many rectors now-a-days give only most miserable pittance to their curates in proportion to what they receive from the endowments of the Church, let me instance two or three cases. An incumbent in the North, in receipt of 1,600*l.* (perhaps he may have private means beside), offers his curate 120*l.* and a furnished house. Another, with 900*l.*, offers 120*l.*; a third, with about 1,000*l.*, offers 100*l.* It would be easy, I suspect, to multiply such cases. It has been remarked again and again that the dearth of curates is really getting alarming—the supply does not nearly equal the demand. Can it be wondered at? But what can be done to remedy the evil? The Curates' Augmentation Fund may do something; but I feel sure the incumbents might if they choose do more. Let them give as they receive. Let those who have the means give their curates such a stipend as would enable them to marry. Many curates with private means would not object—nay, would be pleased—to give their services for very small stipends in cases where rectors are ill-paid themselves; but a rich incumbent has no right to ask a man (who has to hold the position of a gentleman and take his place in society nearly equal to his own) to do half the work of his parish for the utterly inadequate sum of 100*l.* or 120*l.* per annum."

THE BISHOP OF LONDON'S FUND.—A general board meeting of this fund was held on Thursday, at the offices in Pall Mall. The Bishop of London presided, and read a statement which had been prepared for the occasion. It was as follows:—"The executive committee submit to the board the balance-sheet of receipts and expenditure during the past half-year, as certified by the auditors. The whole cash receipts of the fund to the present time amount to 176,050*l.* The whole amount of the fund, including what is promised as well as paid, is 268,550*l.*, including a sum of 15,000*l.* promised as payable through the local associations to the present date. The grants from the fund provide for 71 missionary clergy and 31 parochial curates, in all 102 clergy. The annual charge for the missionary clergy is 11,975*l.*, and for the parochial curates 2,580*l.*, making together a charge of 14,555*l.* per annum. Of clergy formerly supported by the fund seven have been permanently provided for by endowment, three others have lapsed, and three have been withdrawn. As regards the lay agents maintained by the fund, there are at present 40 Scripture-readers, supported at the annual charge of 2,182*l.*, and 23 parochial mission women, at the charge of 500*l.* per annum. Six other Scripture readers and one other mission woman have been withdrawn. Proceeding from the subject of agents to that of permanent works, we have to report that grants from the fund have been made to 46 churches, the aggregate amount voted to that object being 45,765*l.*; 12,900*l.* has been voted in aid of the erection of 24 schools; 1,700*l.* has been granted towards nine parsonages. Towards creating 19 mission stations the sum of 9,376*l.* has been voted, besides 3,620*l.* expended in the purchase of leases of such buildings. The total grants for sites amount to 36,434*l.* 18*s.* 5*d.* These grants provide or assist in providing sites for 21 churches, 23 school buildings, 13 parsonages, and four mission stations. The total amount of the grants from the fund, exclusive of grants for rents, is 113,615*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* The above statement is exclusive of special local donations, amongst which it is noticeable that there are grants for the stipends of five clergymen not enumerated above, and gifts of ten new churches not included in the above 46." Another statement was read, giving various statistics as to the state of education in the diocese, from which it appeared that there were from 150,000 to 200,000 children who attended no school at all. The Earl of Harrowby proposed a vote of thanks to the Bishop, and in doing so congratulated him on the progress of the fund. Having been seconded, the vote was carried.

EVANGELICAL PRUSSIA.—As showing the feeling with which the war and its probable results are regarded by a large section of Prussian society, a letter which has been published in the *Edinburgh Daily Review*, written by a member of Parliament, is of some interest. The writer speaks on behalf of the Evangelicals of his country, who, though not as numerous as their brethren in England, are proportionably quite as influential, and have much weight in the highest quarters at Berlin. The late King was a devoted adherent of the Prussian "Clapham Sect," and the Court preacher, Dr. Krummacher, is one of its most able representatives. The writer referred to, whose letter is dated the 15th inst., says:—"We live in a time of great excitement,

To-day there was a thanksgiving service in all the churches of the kingdom for the victory of Sadowa. Our pastor preached from the words, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.' The question whether we ought to refer this brilliant victory in a special sense to the Divine interposition, he answered by saying that the brilliant deeds of the army on the present occasion were no accident, as it were, standing by itself alone, but the fruit of a long series of Divine blessings, for which the Prussians had to thank the Gospel. It was the peculiar object of the Gospel, in one aspect of it, to stir up and develop all the faculties of men, which had been the case in Prussia as nowhere else on the continent; and in this conviction we must regard the universal response by the nation to the call to arms as the result of the evangelical spirit. In Prussia this is certainly the case. In the eyes of Prussians, Protestantism triumphs not so much over the Roman Catholic Church as over the Jesuitism that rules it; and consequently, all true Protestants and all Liberals—that is, those who are not Catholics of the Ultramontane school—are full of enthusiasm all over Prussia and even beyond it. Yes, in North and South Germany people begin to comprehend that Prussians alone can make Germany great and free. Benningsen in Hanover, and Von Roggenbach, formerly Minister in Baden, himself a Catholic, advocate this with powerful voice to those not Prussians in north and south; and should Napoleon dare to cross the boundaries of Germany, he would find the spirit of 1813, and united Germany would regain, with God's help, what the Peace of Vienna, viz. of 1815, gave, alas! of German territory to France—Strasbourg and Alsace. I hope that soon all English newspapers will advocate the view that evangelical England and Germany—evangelica through Prussia—are naturally the best allies."

Religious Intelligence.

OPEN-AIR MISSION.—On Monday, the 30th July, the quarterly meeting of this society was held in Queen-square Chapel, Westminster. Tea was served at six o'clock. About 170 persons were present, among whom were the Revs. the Dean of Huron, Canada West, A. Peache, W. Stott, J. Redford, Dr. Hewlett, J. Robinson, M. Baxter; the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., Mr. S. A. Blackwood, Mr. Robert Baxter, Captain E. G. Fishbourne, Mr. O. Papen-gouth, and others. The chair was occupied by Mr. S. A. Blackwood, and a special address on "The New Birth" was delivered by the Rev. John Robinson, secretary of the London City Mission.

SWANSEA.—The Rev. C. Short, M.A., has resigned the pastorate of the Baptist church at Mount Pleasant, after a ministry of fifteen years, and accepted a cordial invitation from the church assembling at Townhead-street, Sheffield. Mr. Short will commence his ministerial labours at Sheffield on the first Sunday in September.

GAINSBOROUGH.—The Congregationalists in this town are successfully proceeding with their efforts to clear off their heavy chapel debt of 1,000*l.* Last week they held a bazaar, which, notwithstanding the unfavourable weather for the day of opening (Tuesday), and the short notice (about four months) the ladies had for preparation, was altogether very encouraging. The sum raised was about 150*l.*, which reduces the debt and amount required for the repairing of the chapel to about 300*l.* This they hope to realise before the end of the year.

HORNINGSHAM, WILTS.—The tricentenary services in connection with the Independent chapel in this village were held on Tuesday, July 31st. At the afternoon service the chapel was filled, and some were unable to obtain admittance. The pastor of the church presided, and after devotional services, in which the Revs. T. Mann, of Trowbridge, and E. Edwards, of Frome, took part, the Rev. H. M. Gunn, of Warminster, read an interesting paper on the origin and progress of Evangelical Nonconformity in Horningsham, which referred to the honourable conduct of Sir John Thynne and his successors; and sketched the life and labours of the men who, in times of trouble and tempest, had lived and laboured for God and humanity. After the close of the service, it was intimated by the pastor that, by the liberality of the neighbouring churches and friends at a distance, as well as by the liberal donations of the church and congregation assembling in the Old Meeting, the debt incurred in repewing and repairing in 1863 was now paid; he therefore tendered his thanks to all who had so generously assisted them. Mr. C. Jupe proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Gunn for the research, sound principles, and deeply-interesting facts of his paper. The Rev. T. Mann, of Trowbridge, cordially seconded the resolution, and Mr. H. Wills, of Bristol, proposed that the paper should be printed. About 400 persons subsequently took tea in the schoolroom and a tent, after which a service was held in the chapel. There was an overflowing congregation, and many were unable to obtain admission. After the introductory service, in which the Revs. J. O. Mansfield, A. Rowland, LL.B., of Frome; T. Gilbert, of Westbury, and T. G. Rooke, B.A., of Frome, took part, the Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington, preached a sermon, taking for his text, Romans iv. 20—"He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God." Four suitable trees were

planted in the graveyard as a commemoration of the tricentenary year and services, by the Revs. J. Stoughton, H. M. Gunn, J. O. Mansfield, and Mr. C. Jupe. Thus closed a day long to be remembered by all who were privileged to be present at these interesting services.

BROADWINSOR.—The Congregational chapel in this village was reopened for public worship after enlargement and repairs on Sunday, July 22nd, when sermons were preached by the Rev. W. Densham, of South Petherton, to excellent congregations. On Tuesday, the 24th, the services were continued, and there were many visitors from Bridport, Beaminster, and the surrounding villages. There was service in the chapel at three o'clock. The devotional parts of the service were conducted by the Rev. J. Hargraves, T. M. Prentice, and T. Neave. The sermon was preached by the Rev. J. Morris, of Bristol. There was then a tea-meeting, attended by some 200 persons, followed by a public meeting in the chapel. After singing and prayer, the pastor of the church, the Rev. W. Mellonie, made a statement, showing the financial position of the work that had been done. The total expense incurred was 203*l*. Of this amount 160*l*. had been raised. The profits of the tea and the collections amounted to 20*l*., leaving 23*l*. to be raised. The Rev. J. Rogers, of Bridport, then took the chair. He congratulated the church and congregation on the happy state of things existing between them, and on the great improvements that had been made in the chapel. He then expounded the leading principles of Congregationalism. He was followed by the Revs. R. P. Erlebach, T. Neave, and Joseph Morris, the latter of whom expressed his pleasure at seeing the prosperity of the church. The alterations made in the building have given general satisfaction.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX.—**NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL.**—The new and handsome chapel which occupies the site of the old meeting-house in Parson-street, Halstead, was opened for public worship on Tuesday, July 31st. It is erected from the plans of Mr. Barnes, of Ipswich, in the Gothic style, and underneath the chapel is a school capable of accommodating 360 children. The new chapel contains a new organ, which cost 253*l*., raised by a separate fund. It was opened by Ebenezer Prout, Esq. (late organist at the Crystal Palace), son of a former pastor of the Old Meeting. In the opening services on Tuesday morning, the Revs. Thomas Given Wilson, B.A. (the newly-elected pastor, who entered on his stated duties on Sunday); B. Johnson, Halstead; T. W. Davids, Colchester; and G. Wilkinson, Chelmsford; took part. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Thomas Jones, of Bedford Chapel, London, from Col. ii. 19. At the close of the service Mr. Jones stated that the cost of the new building with its fittings was 5,600*l*., towards which the congregation had contributed 2,144*l*. 8*s*.; friends, 293*l*. 13*s*. 6*d*.; collected at the laying of the memorial-stone, 90*l*.; total, 2,528*l*. 1*s*. 6*d*.; leaving about 2,000*l*. to raise. He remarked that the people had done nobly, and the spirit and enterprise they had exhibited was really beyond all praise. The service was followed by a public dinner in the spacious schoolroom of the building, which was presided over by Thomas Barnes, Esq., M.P., supported by a number of ministers and gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood. After the usual loyal toasts had been proposed, the Chairman urged the importance of clearing off the debt on the new building. They lived, he said, in an age when Congregational principles were as much if not more called for than at any period in the history of the world.

He included with their own denomination both Baptists and Presbyterians, for they ought to be one body; and he believed these three denominations unitedly offered the greatest obstacle to the three or four forms of error described by their friend Mr. Jones that morning. (Hear, hear.) They were far from priestism and High-Churchism. (Hear, hear.) As Christians they did not look at what was fashionable or respectable, but at that which was in harmony with the Word of God. (Cheers.) Never had they possessed a class of ministers or laymen more fitted for their duty, and in going about the country he had many opportunities of observing this; it was their duty therefore to both maintain and sustain their ministers in their arduous work. At the same time they were not precluded from beautiful chapels, nor from beautiful singing, because they firmly believed that the praise of God ought not to be done by proxy. (Cheers.) They did not see therefore why they should not have a beautiful form of worship added to a faithful ministry.

The toast of "The Old Meeting" was responded to by the Rev. T. G. Wilson, who expressed a hope that by God's blessing he should be enabled to justify all the expectations they had formed of him, and that the anxieties which they must necessarily have concerning him would be speedily removed by their beholding the work of the Lord prospering in his hands. Mr. J. R. Vaisey and Mr. W. S. Wallis also responded to the toast. In proposing, "Prosperity to the Denominational Institutions of the County," the Chairman said that England undoubtedly owed a debt of gratitude to the Nonconformists of Essex; and he trusted the high character they had attained would be maintained in its integrity. Mr. Perry, of Chelmsford, in responding, said he believed Essex had kept pace with any county in England in her places of worship. For many years he had been treasurer of the Essex Congregational Union, which had been blessed by God to do great good in the county; they had stirred up the people to do something for themselves; but while they were proud of their daily increasing power in the county, they must not be satisfied until they could take the map of

Essex and say there was not a place in which the Gospel was not preached. The Rev. T. W. Davids said that in Essex they had very bad harvests, and were always in difficulties, but somehow they nevertheless always got good gatherings, which proved to be holy and useful opportunities, and he was sure they seldom went away without having the best purposes of their hearts kindled into something like energy and spirit. The meeting was also addressed by the Revs. T. Jones and A. Hannay (of London), B. Johnson and S. G. Woodrow (of Halstead), G. Wilkinson (of Chelmsford), and T. B. Sainsbury, and by other gentlemen, including Mr. F. Barnes, the architect. In the evening the Rev. Alexander Hannay preached to a crowded congregation, from Luke xv. 8—the parable of the lost piece of silver. The collection in the morning amounted to 76*l*. 13*s*., in the evening to about 18*l*. In addition to this sum about 30*l*. were received for dinner-tickets. The *Halstead Times*, in its report of the proceedings, says:—

Within a comparatively brief period we have witnessed in Halstead the restoration of the parish church, the erection of two new churches, the High-street chapel, the Friends' meeting-house, and last in point of time but not least in its beautiful proportions and handsome internal appearance, the New Congregational Chapel—all of which owe their existence not to State aid, nor to compulsory taxation, but to the nobler principle of Christian willingness.

Correspondence.

HELP WANTED IN THE EAST OF LONDON.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Your readers do not need to be informed of the state of the East End of London at this moment, and I am sure that many of them will be forward to render help to the bereaved and suffering, if they only know how to do it. This morning, six city missionaries and evangelists met the Rev. James Bowrey and myself in my vestry, and after conference on the facts which had come under our observation, we formed ourselves into a committee to administer relief to families which are not likely to be relieved, either by the parishes to which they belong, or by any other parties. I do not know that it would serve any useful purpose to report to you, or through you to the public, painful and harrowing incidents connected with the present epidemic. For myself I can say that I have never experienced such a fortnight as that which has passed over me since Saturday, the 21st of July,—a fortnight in which there has been concentrated as much that is saddening and exciting as is usually diffused over a period of years. But in only one of the many cases which I have visited personally, has charitable relief been necessary. And we shall take care that whatever money is entrusted to us shall be expended with discrimination, and so as not to interfere with the obligations of the Poor Law Guardians. Twenty-one cases of this sort, very urgent, were named at once at our meeting this morning, and in a few days we shall find this number multiplied many-fold.

I wish I could report that this great scourge is abating. One day the hope is that there is some abatement, but the next day compels the abandonment of this hope. A missionary, supported by my church, reports fifty deaths in his district in Limehouse-fields, twenty-six of them adults, and twenty-four children, and says that in his district it is manifestly abating. But another, an evangelist labouring in the neighbourhood of Queen-street Chapel, Ratcliffe, reports that it is greatly on the increase (three of his own children have been ill of cholera, but are recovering). And I fear that the reports of the Registrar-General will not be found more favourable for last week than for the preceding. It is due to the local authorities to say that they do not seem to be "paralysed," and that they are putting forth great efforts and are sparing no cost. So far as Mile-end Old Town (which is more properly "Stepney" than the "Union" which bears that name) is concerned, I can say this from personal knowledge. That they are doing now what ought to have been done long ago, is very probable; and I cannot help thinking that they might avail themselves of voluntary aid for a house-to-house visitation, and thus greatly aid the medical men whom they are employing and paying liberally. But I am bound to bear testimony to the zeal and toil with which they are at present labouring for the public weal. As for the cholera ward in the Mile-end Workhouse, I question whether even the wards of the London Hospital (and I cannot name the London Hospital without thanking God for it) are in a better condition. A medical man, experienced in Indian practice, has been engaged to live in the house and devote his whole time to the cholera patients.

As to the water supplied by the "East London" Company, I think a great deal has been said that is utterly groundless, or at the most only conjectural. But a few days ago there were published analyses of the water supplied by all the London Companies, and the "East London" water occupied a very good place in the list. As to water, the great defect is in the supply, or rather in the want of proper cisterns for receiving and retaining a sufficiency of pure water for the day's use in many of the poorer houses and streets. I fear there is no exaggeration in the horrible descriptions which have been published of the state of things

in relation to this matter in many parts of the East of London. And I cannot but hope that the present visitation will be the means, or at least the occasion, of great and salutary changes.

Of the classes affected it would be difficult to say what class has not been affected. No doubt the poorer classes suffer most. But well-to-do families all around, living in streets and houses in which sanitary inquiries could discern no defect, have suffered likewise. And the strong as well as the feeble have been cut down. Members of our churches, attendants on our ministry, teachers, and Sunday-schoolers, have been taken from us. On Saturday last a romantically distressing case occurred. Two young persons, members of a neighbouring Baptist church, were to have been married in Stepney Meeting at eleven o'clock on Saturday. Late on Friday night the brother of the bridegroom called on me to say that the bride had been seized with cholera that afternoon at three o'clock, and that the marriage must be postponed. By three o'clock on Saturday morning she was a corpse—eight hours before the hour at which she hoped to appear in public a happy bride!

One thing has filled me with thankfulness to God, and that is the devotion of all classes to their sick. Although, as you may suppose, the whole district is in a state of excitement bordering on panic, I have not known a single instance in which relatives have shrunk from the closest contact with, and the most unwearied attention to, the diseased. And it is with feelings which it would be difficult to describe that I have stood by the bedsides of the dying and gazed on the anxious love and care with which they were tended. And here I may venture to say, for the encouragement of ministers and others who may feel somewhat timid at first, as I did myself, in visiting cholera patients, that with ordinary precautions and the blessing of God whom we serve, we incur little or no risk in going with our Gospel message into their sick-chambers. But my observation fully confirms what has so often been said, that to the neglect of premonitory symptoms must be ascribed, humanly speaking, many deaths. And some cases I can clearly trace to an undue deferring of the burial of the dead.

I ought to explain that my brethren the ministers of Mile-end-road, Wyliffe, and Covedale Chapels were not at our meeting this morning, in consequence of absence from town. And having summoned the meeting in great haste, I was not able to invite my friends Dr. Smith and Mr. Bevan. But I will communicate with these brethren as soon as possible, and, if special funds are not provided for Poplar and Bow otherwise, any moneys which may be sent to me will be distributed over these districts as well as the parts more immediately around me.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

JOHN KENNEDY.

4, Stepney-green, E., August 6, 1866.

PS.—While writing this letter, I have received a kind communication from a gentleman connected with the Rev. Edward White's church, offering to send me two guineas (being part of the communion collection by Mr. White's people yesterday) for the benefit of those who have been made orphans by cholera in the East of London. Most thankfully shall I accept this offer. But how permanently to provide for such orphans I do not know. Your readers will observe that this subject is already engaging public attention. But the wants which we can more easily supply are those which are temporary but distressingly urgent. What we can do for orphans, however, shall not be left undone. Let me add, likewise, that on Saturday night last I received a kind letter and a cheque for five pounds from Mr. Henry Wright, of Kensington, for the relief of distress occasioned by cholera. The gift was very opportune, for I had spent five pounds that day in the relief of such distress; and I have put money into the hands of our missionaries and evangelists this morning. And not doubting that this appeal will be responded to, should I be favoured with cheques, they may be crossed "The Consolidated," and Post-office orders should be made payable at the Mile-end office.

J. K.

THE GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL AND THE CHOLERA.

To the Editor of the *Nonconformist*.

SIR,—Your columns are ever open to a cry for help. May I therefore venture to solicit the benevolent consideration of the charitable at this critical time?

The committee having spontaneously set aside a ward and separate building just in time, have necessarily incurred an unusual expense in making special arrangements for cholera patients beyond the usual demands of an hospital in a poor, populous, and unhealthy district, relying on a generous public to aid them in their exertions to mitigate the sufferings and relieve the poor patients under their care, and prevent the cholera from spreading. Words would only be wasted in detailing the sufferings and would not relieve their poor relations. I will only state that noble-hearted and gentle women, trained to nursing and imbued with kind and Christian feelings, cheerfully tend the cases night and day, whilst the highest medical skill of a devoted staff is active at all hours in grappling with the deadly enemy now down upon us. Donations in kind or money will be gratefully received and thankfully acknowledged by the bankers, Messrs. Barnett, Hoares, and Co., 62, Lombard-street, or Messrs. Ransom, Bouverie, and Co., Pall Mall.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

GEORGE REID.

Great Northern Hospital, Caledonian-road, N., London, August 7, 1866.

DR. LILLIE ON CARLYLE'S EDINBURGH ADDRESS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Having read the letters which have recently appeared in your pages on the lecture which Carlyle delivered in Edinburgh last April, I had hoped that some of your readers would have been moved by love of justice and zeal for truth to answer them; but no reply having appeared, I crave your permission to offer my humble but earnest protest against Dr. Lillie's misrepresentations of that lecture.

I do not write as one of Carlyle's admirers, but I deeply regret that those who reject some religious truths, which I firmly believe, with Dr. Lillie, to be of the highest importance, should by his letters be prejudiced against them, and thereby hindered from attaining the knowledge of Him who is "the Truth." This prejudice would, I fear, be almost inevitably produced by Dr. Lillie's apparent inability to perceive the worth of much that is contained in the lecture, if it were understood that he fairly represents those whose religious beliefs are similar to his own. It would be a subject of deep regret if the cause of truth—of Christian truth—should be thus injured. There are, moreover, a large number of your readers who would not think of reading Carlyle's lecture, although they would read the letters on it. These I ask, if it shall appear to them that Dr. Lillie has been guilty of misrepresentation, to suspend their judgment of the lecture until they have read it for themselves.

I have little to say respecting the charge of inconsistency brought against Carlyle for believing in the hereditary principle when he professes such great admiration for Knox and Cromwell, except to observe that if Dr. Lillie had attempted to prove that their ancestors were remarkable for their indecision of character, irreligion, want of high moral principle, &c., I could have understood the pertinence of his remarks; but that when he says, "The hereditary principle is to-day at close quarters with the nation. The peers have struck down the nation's leader," &c., he seems to attach a peculiar meaning to the words, hereditary principle—a meaning altogether different from that in which Carlyle used them. I find they only occur once in the lecture. Speaking of the English peers before the time of Charles I., he says, "They were all loyal men, with minds full of justice and valour and humanity, and all kinds of qualities that are good for men to have who ought to rule over others. Then their genealogy was remarkable—and there is a great deal more in genealogies than is generally believed at present. I never heard tell of any clever man who came out of entirely stupid people. If you look around the families of your acquaintance you will see such cases in all directions. I know it has been the case in mine. I can trace the father and the son, and the grandson, and the family stamp is quite distinctly legible upon each of them, so that it goes for a great deal—the hereditary principle in government as in other things; and it must be recognised as soon as there is any fixity in things." Here the words "hereditary principle" evidently refer to the almost universally acknowledged fact that children inherit the qualities of their parents; a fact which may be exaggerated and valued too highly, or the reverse, but that is not the question raised by Dr. Lillie. It is, I think, obvious that the portion of his first letter in which he speaks of what he calls the hereditary principle does not apply to anything contained in the lecture.

Dr. Lillie positively asserts that Carlyle errs in fancying that it was in the old Covenant merely, and not in the whole Bible, and most of all in the last quarter of it, that Knox and Cromwell got their fineness, but I do not find any indication that he did fall into this error. In the absence of any other observation which could possibly be understood to indicate it, I am forced to conclude that Dr. Lillie refers to the statement that in England a small minority of Godfearing men wanted to make the nation altogether conformable to the Hebrew Bible. This, probably, was intended as an allusion to some of the peculiarities of Puritanism. It could not in all fairness be taken as denoting a wish to ignore the influence of the New Testament, since immediately after the speaker described the people of Scotland when aroused by Knox, as "eager for Christ's Crown and Covenant," and says that all England rose into "unappeasable determination to have the Gospel there also." Neither is Dr. Lillie's grief that the Bible is never once mentioned, justified by this passage, or by others where, if Scripture is not named, it is quoted, unless, indeed, he merely grieves that the speaker did not couple it with Knox's "History."

The intolerance of Knox is not, I suppose, mentioned for the purpose of showing Carlyle's inconsistency, since Dr. Lillie, who apparently shares that admiration, would have had a chance of martyrdom himself had he lived in the days of Knox, and denied, as I presume he does, the right of the magistrate to strike those whom he thinks heretics.

Dr. Lillie is "no enemy to a wise, well-ordered aristocracy," and undoubtedly he would have been no enemy to our English aristocracy before the time of Charles I., if Carlyle's description of it were only true. But unfortunately it reads more like a description of King Arthur's Knights, than a piece of veritable history. Its too favourable colours are sobered by the few facts which Carlyle's critic, correctly apprehending his meaning here, brings forward. But he seems to have overlooked the remarks which immediately follow the quotation he gives on the subject,— "In Charles I.'s time it grew to be known or said that if a man was by birth a gentleman, and was worth 10,000*l.*, and bestowed his gifts up and down among courtiers, he could be made a peer. Under Charles II., it went on with still more rapidity, and has been going on with ever-increasing velocity until we see the perfect break-neck pace at which they are going it now. And now a peerage is a paltry kind of thing to what it was in those old times." Apparently, Carlyle has no very high opinion of "our present aristocracy," no "eulogiums" for them, and this being the case, what can be thought of the latter part of Dr. Lillie's first letter?

Reverting to the charge of inconsistency, we find him asserting that he could not admire both Cromwell and the men who banded together for his destruction, and yet judging from this letter he does something at least as strange. After accusing Carlyle of a blind partisanship with the lords of the lash and the slave-pen, he says, "It seems to betray an innate love of cruelty that makes your talk about Knox and Cromwell as ridiculous as it is detestable," and yet we find him writing about

a portion of this very talk, "Well, it was a fine, brave thing to say, and so far I love and honour you for saying it." What?—love and honour a man for what is ridiculous and detestable! Truly, one feels tempted to cry, "Impossible!"

It is much to be regretted that if Dr. Lillie was unconscious of the injustice of his opinion that Carlyle was a wicked man, a juggling impostor, an eloquent speaker who does not speak the truth, a feeling of courtesy did not restrain the expression of it.

The second letter has not much reference to the Edinburgh address (to which for the sake of brevity I wish to confine myself), except the remarks on the quotation from "Wilhelm Meister's Travels." The paragraph is too long to quote here, but anyone who reads it attentively may see that when Carlyle says, "There is nothing higher in man than that," the word that evidently refers, not to "the pagan religions," as Dr. Lillie must have imagined when he said that Goethe's way of making boys Christians is first to make them pagans, but to "reverence for what is above us." The last phrase aptly describes the facility which phrenologists call veneration, the religious faculty. I do not think it is an uncommon thing to associate it with the pagan religions as well as with every other religion. The religious faculty is undoubtedly the highest thing in man, whether perverted by the lowest form of heathenism, or developed by the most exalted Christianity. Nor can we correctly speak of paganism or Christianity as "in man." The religious faculty is in man, as is the musical faculty, but who would say in literal speech, that music is in man? Doubtless most Christians will acknowledge that "to learn to recognise in pain, sorrow, and contradiction, even in those things, odious as they are to flesh and blood, to learn that there lies in this a priceless blessing," is a part of Christianity, a part of its teaching, but will strongly dissent from the opinion that it, and not faith in Christ as God manifest in the flesh, is the soul of the Christian religion; but I hope there are not many who would choose to describe the opinion as "blasphemous absurdity."

Dr. Lillie appears to have discovered something very pernicious in the remarks on theology which he quotes in the beginning of his third letter. What it is, is not so easily learnt. Carlyle cannot of course mean that the same thing which is known to man is known only to God, but, as a little common sense quickly enables his readers to perceive, that the subjects respecting which theology inquires are in part known to man and in part known only to God. Let the reader judge for himself whether the inference that in Carlyle's opinion we are all in the dark about what and where we are, is in any degree legitimate.

After his partly excusable inquiries respecting the meaning of a sentence which might be more intelligible, Dr. Lillie expresses his indignation at the fact that the speaker excited the mirth of his audience. Apparently he does not clearly understand what the laughing was about, but he has no doubt that the subject was unfit for merriment. Would it not have been better to have reserved his censure until he knew on what he was bestowing it?

Next, the remark that in studying history, Greece and Rome would first of all concern the student, is interpreted to mean that Grecian and Roman history are the most important of all studies; at least so I infer from Dr. Lillie's superfluous attempt to show that the study of the Bible is more important, as if there were anything in the passage from which he quotes, or in any other part of the lecture, to indicate a contrary opinion. I say nothing respecting the general tendency of Carlyle's writings: it is better not to touch upon such a subject than to treat it inefficiently, and it would be impossible to do justice to it in the brief space of a letter, if there were no other reason why the attempt should not be made. Undoubtedly many of his principles are such as most of your readers, in my judgment correctly, believe to be erroneous, and I cannot imagine that he is in any degree ashamed of these principles, or would hesitate to avow them whenever necessary, nor yet that we must, in order to discover what he believes, search for errors which lurk behind his words rather than are revealed in them. Yet this is what Dr. Lillie continually does. Perhaps the most notable example of it is his method of proving Carlyle's Pantheism. Two misquoted passages of Scripture leave him without a doubt of the truth of this grave charge. Not that when misquoted there is anything erroneous in them, but that if quoted correctly they might have been taken as, in some sort, an indication that the charge is not true.

As to the historical questions, I am content to leave them—the misrepresentations are fewer and less important. But when Dr. Lillie speaks of Carlyle as sending the students to history because it is the best means of learning morality, it is a different thing. Here I cannot even find what part of the lecture he supposes to indicate this. The passage quoted by him refers to morality in regard to study—the habit of learning anything thoroughly rather than superficially, and history is not mentioned in connection with it. When mentioned it is as one of the studies which would engage the attention of the students, and it is not even strongly recommended to all. "I would say, as applicable to almost all of you, that it is highly expedient to go into history," are the words used. But if the speaker had held the opinions attributed to him, he must have considered the study of history not merely expedient, but necessary, and that for all, without a single exception.

The fear of making this letter inconveniently long obliges me to pass over many passages which I had intended to notice. In conclusion, I will simply request the attention of your readers to Dr. Lillie's opinion of the lecture as a whole, as shown when speaking of its purpose, or rather of its purposeless, valueless character, as he considered it, entirely ignoring such passages as those containing much sound and eminently practical advice in the beginning and end of the address, although many of them command the approval of all who can recognise the good and the true. In writing this letter I have not lost sight of the fact that Carlyle's teaching, though powerful, is sadly defective, embodies only a part of the truth, and is therefore to some extent erroneous. If it were not so, Dr. Lillie's letters could not do much mischief. It is to certain grains of truth that they owe all their power in one direction, and in the other—as regards Carlyle's admirers—if he were able to teach them all that it is most important for them to know, it would be of com-

paratively little consequence that they should be prejudiced against those who differ from him, and therefore against the principles with which they are identified.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

M. J. B.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CONTINENTAL WAR.

THE AUSTRO-PRUSSIAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique*, upon the authority of a correspondent at Vienna, publishes the following as an exact analysis of the preliminaries of peace agreed upon between the two great belligerent Powers:—

Their Majesties the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, after declaring that they are animated by a desire to restore to their peoples the blessings of peace, appoint as their Plenipotentiaries—

His Apostolic Majesty—Count Karolyi and Baron de Brenner; and the King of Prussia—Count Bismark, who have agreed upon the following points:—

The integrity of the Austrian monarchy, with the exception of Venetia, shall be maintained.

The King of Prussia shall withdraw his troops from the Austrian territory as soon as a peace shall have been signed.

The Emperor of Austria recognises the dissolution of the Germanic Confederation as it heretofore existed, and accepts the new organisation of Germany without the participation of Austria; he undertakes to recognise the closer Federal relations (*die engeren Bundesbande*) which the King of Prussia shall establish to the north of the line of the Main; he also accepts the formation by the States of the South of a separate Confederation, and that the national connection with the North shall be reserved for future arrangement between the two Confederations.

His Apostolic Majesty transfers to the King of Prussia all the rights which he had acquired by the Treaty of Vienna of the 30th of October over the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein, with the reservation that the population of Northern Schleswig, if they should express such a desire by a free vote, should be reunited to Denmark.

The war indemnity is fixed at forty million thalers. From this sum fifteen millions shall be deducted as the equivalent of the amount which the Emperor of Austria, by virtue of the Treaty of 1864, would still be entitled to claim from the Elbe Duchies, and five millions as the equivalent of the provisioning of the Prussian troops which still continue to occupy the Austrian provinces until the conclusion of peace. There will, therefore, remain a sum of twenty million thalers to be paid in specie.

The King of Prussia, at the request of Austria, consents to allow the Kingdom of Saxony to retain its present territorial limits, but he reserves to himself the power of settling by a special treaty to be concluded with the King of Saxony the question of the war indemnities as well as the future position which Saxony shall hold in the Northern Confederation.

The Emperor of Austria will recognise the new territorial arrangements effected by the King of Prussia in the north of Germany, and also any territorial changes which he may complete.

The King of Prussia engages to obtain the adhesion of his ally of Italy to the preliminaries of peace and to the armistice, as soon as the Emperor of the French shall have declared that the Kingdom of Venetia is at the disposition of the King of Italy.

The Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia, after the exchange of ratifications of the present preliminaries has been completed, shall appoint plenipotentiaries, who shall meet at a place to be hereafter selected, in order to conclude a peace upon the basis of the present preliminary convention, and to negotiate upon questions of detail.

For these purposes, after having agreed upon the present preliminaries, the high contracting parties shall conclude this armistice between the Austrian and Saxon military forces on the one part, and the Prussian military forces on the other part.

The conditions of this armistice shall be settled immediately. The armistice shall commence from August 2, and the present suspension of arms shall be prolonged until that date.

This morning's papers contain the actual official text of the preliminaries of peace. It substantially agrees with the above.

According to the Berlin correspondent of the *Times*, official information has been received that Austria consents to renounce all permanent connection with both the Northern and Southern Confederacies.

Though the intentions of the Berlin Government in respect to Hanover, Hesse-Cassel, Hesse-Darmstadt, Wurtemberg, and Bavaria, are not exactly known, the Vienna diplomatists seem to have got an inkling of what is likely to take place.

If, says a Vienna letter, they are well informed on the subject, almost all those parts of Hanover which are to the south of the possessions of the Duke of Brunswick will be annexed by Prussia, and King George will be called on to renounce his reversionary claims to that duchy. "The greater part of Hesse-Cassel is likely to be incorporated with Prussia. The Duchy of Coburg will, perhaps, be enlarged at the expense of his Serene Highness the Duke of Saxe-Meiningen. The Grand Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt may, perhaps, be aggrandised at the expense of the Electorate (Hesse-Cassel). The Duchy of Nassau is in great danger of being *gestrichen* (struck out of the map). The Bavarian provinces of Ober and Unter Franken are almost sure to be taken from Bavaria, as they are north of the Main and its tributary, the Regnitz." It is very possible that the Prussian Crown lawyers are of opinion that their Sovereign has some hereditary claim to Ober and Middle Franken, as there is a statue of the Margrave Frederic, Duke of Brandenburg-Beireuth, in the great *platz*, or square, at Erlangen.

The negotiations for peace are now carried on at Prague between Count Brenner, for Austria, and Baron Werther, for Prussia, and it is supposed that they

will soon be brought to a close, "for the preliminaries of peace were so carefully drawn up that if simply transcribed they would very well serve for a treaty of peace."

The convention for the payment of 20,000,000 thalers by Austria has already been signed.

The Vienna correspondent of the *Daily News* says that the Duc de Grammont is extremely irritated at the tone Count Bismark assumes, as well as at the way in which he sets aside all French mediation in the arrangements for peace.

The Prussians have commenced evacuating Lower Austria in order to take up their position within the settled line of demarcation between the two armies.

The King of Prussia will shortly proceed to Carlsbad, where the treaty of peace between Austria and Prussia will probably be signed.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

A despatch from Padua of the 1st inst. says:—

The Italian Government being without a reply from Austria relative to the proposed armistice of four weeks, General La Marmora telegraphed to the Governor of the fortress of Legnano, pointing out the consequences that might ensue if no reply arrived from Austria before four o'clock to-morrow morning, and proposing to him a second suspension of hostilities for eight days, in order to give time for the diplomatic reply of the Austrian Government to arrive.

The Governor of Legnano replied that he was authorised by the commander of the army of operation to accept the proposed suspension of hostilities.

That term will expire on the 10th, when, if the negotiations come to nothing, hostilities will perhaps be resumed. It seems that the negotiations for an armistice have commenced at Cormona, in Istria. General Moering is the Austrian plenipotentiary. Difficulties have already arisen. It is reported that Austria has laid down, as a first condition, the evacuation by the Italians of all Austrian territory not belonging to the Venetian provinces, and that Prussia has left Italy to fight her own battle. These negotiations (the Paris papers say) are completely foreign to the preliminaries of peace which will be negotiated after the conclusion of an armistice with the concurrence of France, probably at Paris. The Florence papers state that the Italian conditions have been agreed upon with France and completely accepted by Prussia.

It is believed that General Menabrea will be the Italian plenipotentiary to whom the peace negotiations will be entrusted.

The King of Italy arrived in Padua on the 1st, and was met by the Bishop of Padua, the civil authorities, and large crowds of the inhabitants, who greeted his Majesty with loud and enthusiastic cheering. The chief headquarters of the Italian army have been transferred from Rovigo to that city.

The Florence journals announce the arrival in the capital of a deputation from Trent, instructed to present to the President of the Council of Ministers an address signed by the communal representatives of that province, soliciting the annexation of the Trent province to Italy.

A large Austrian force (said to amount to 90,000 men) has been sent from Vienna to the Tyrol, to defend that territory in case of a failure of the peace negotiations. Dr. Russell, the *Times*' correspondent, accompanies it.

OPENING OF THE PRUSSIAN CHAMBERS.—SPEECH OF THE KING.

The opening of the Prussian Chambers by the King in person took place at Berlin at noon on Sunday. The following is the full text of his Majesty's speech:—

Illustrious Noble and Loyal Germans of both Houses of the Diet,

Now that I see assembled around me the representatives of the country, my heart compels me to express first of all from this place, my own and my people's thanks for God's gracious goodness, which has assisted Prussia amidst heavy but successful sacrifices, not only in averting from our frontiers the dangers of hostile attack, but in enabling the army of the country, by a rapid career of victory to add fresh laurels to its inherited fame, and to smooth the course for the national development of Germany.

Accompanied by the visible blessing of God, the part of the nation capable of bearing arms enthusiastically obeyed the summons to the sacred struggle for the independence of the Fatherland; our heroic army, supported by few but faithful allies, advanced from success to success, from victory to victory in the east as in the west. Much precious blood has been shed. The country mourns the loss of many brave men who died the death of the hero in the flush of triumph, until our standards waved along a line extending from the Carpathians to the Rhine.

It will be for the Government and the representatives of the people, in united co-operation, to bring to maturity the fruit that must be gathered from this sanguinary seed, to prevent its having been scattered in vain.

Loyal gentlemen of both Houses of the Diet,—My Government is able to look with satisfaction upon the financial position of the State. Careful foresight and conscientious economy have placed it in a position to overcome the great financial difficulties which have resulted as a natural consequence from the circumstances of the present time. Although material outlay has been imposed upon the treasury during recent years by the war with Denmark, it has been found possible to meet the expense hitherto incurred in the present war from the state revenue and the existing balances, without imposing any other burden on the country than that of furnishing the supplies in kind for war purposes it is bound to provide by law. I hope the more assuredly that the means required for the successful termination of the war and for the payment of the supplies in kind while maintaining order and security in the finances will be readily granted by you.

An agreement with the representatives of the country as to the settlement of the budget has been unable to be effected in the last few years. The State outlay incurred

during this period is, therefore, destitute of that legal basis, which, as I again acknowledge, the budget can alone receive through the law. Article ninety-nine of the Constitution ordains that it is annually to be agreed upon between my Government and the two Houses of the Diet. Although my Government has nevertheless carried on the budget for several years without this legal basis, this has been done after conscientious examination and in the conviction in accordance with duty, that the conduct of a settled administration, the fulfilment of legal obligations towards public creditors and officials, the maintenance of the army and of the State establishments, were questions vital to the existence of the State, and that the course adopted therefore became one of those inevitable necessities which in the interest of the country a Government cannot and must not hesitate to adopt. I trust that recent events will in so far contribute to effect the indispensable understanding that an indemnity for having carried on the administration without a law regulating the budget, application for which will be made to the representatives, will readily be granted to my Government, and the hitherto existing conflict be therewith finally and the more securely brought to a conclusion as it may be expected that the political position of the Fatherland will admit an extension of the frontiers of the State and the establishment of a united Federal army under the leadership of Prussia, the costs of which will be borne in equal proportions by all members of the Confederation.

The bills acquired in this respect for the convocation of a proper representation of the Federal State will be laid before the Diet without delay.

Gentlemen, you feel with me, the entire Fatherland feels, the high importance of the moment that brings me once more among you. May Providence bless Prussia as graciously in future as it has visibly blessed her immediate past. May God grant it!

At the meeting of the Deputies on Monday, General Stavenhage, the senior member, delivered an address in which he praised the King and the Government for the manner in which they had conducted the campaign. He concluded by calling for cheers for the King, which were given. Count Stolberg has been elected President of the Upper House.

In reply to a congratulatory address from the municipality of Berlin, on Sunday, the King pointed out that Prussia had not only drawn the sword for independence, but also for the reorganisation of Germany. The first, said the King, has been assured, and the latter may, with the help of God, be also obtained. Everything promises a happy future for Prussia, as an honourable and lasting peace is imminent.

THE GERMAN STATES.

The Prussians have pushed forward their troops in the south of Germany as far as Nuremberg, where the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg commands. Würzburg, with the exception of the Marienburg and Main districts, will remain in the possession of the Prussians during the armistice.

The Prussians have taken possession of Mannheim and Heidelberg, in Baden.

An armistice has been concluded between Wurtemberg and Prussia.

An armistice has been concluded between General Manteuffel and Prince Charles in reference to the fortress of Mentz, and the traffic between Frankfurt, Mannheim, and Heidelberg, is now open. General Rödér is negotiating with the Southern Governments about certain positions in Mentz, which are to be given up to the Prussians.

In Frankfurt the Prussian soldiers who were recently billeted on the inhabitants have now all been removed to the barracks. The town is much quieter.

The Federal Bund, removed to Augsburg, may be considered as defunct. Austria has recalled her representative, the Baron von Kubeck, and all the foreign Ministers except that of Russia have left.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says that the mere possibility of Germany being split in twain has called forth numerous protests, of which the South has issued more than her quota.

I have before me resolutions to that effect, passed in most respectable meetings at Kotten, Bernburg, Leipzig, Hamburg, Corbach, Pforzheim, Heidelberg, Darmstadt, Offenbach, Lahr, Stuttgart, Schutterzell, &c. In all of them the junction of the *dilecti membra* of Fatherland under Prussian control is declared to be the natural and necessary result of the war. A more suggestive sign of the times even is that, with the exception of a very few papers, partly Republican and partly devoted to the service of the minor dynasties, not a single journal in Baden, Wurtemberg, and Hesse opposes the idea of Prussian supremacy on both sides the river Main. Nay, unless I had wished to use exclusive language, I might have comprehended Bavaria in the list. The number of independent and popular organs at Munich, Augsburg, Nuremberg, &c., which reject the Bismark programme, is insignificant in comparison to those which recent events have taught the expediency of accepting it. So really Count Bismark, having proved the justice of his claim beyond a doubt, may leave the Southern part of his task to be worked out by the people themselves in the natural evolution of things.

We (*Pall Mall Gazette*) hear from Paris that a cordial understanding again prevails between France and Prussia. The chief cause of this was the attitude of the French legitimists, who have lately come forward with great energy on the side of Austria, Russia, and Rome. This so provoked the Emperor that he at once turned cordially towards Prussia and Italy. To Russia the French Government is showing a decided coldness; Austria has been informed that France can only maintain her friendly disposition towards her if she abandons her former policy as the champion of conservatism and Catholicism; as for Rome she is "définitivement abandonnée." There is still a great deal of talk about negotiations between France and Prussia for the annexation of Luxembourg and the Sarre district, and the expected journey of Count Goltz to Vichy is believed to be connected with these negotiations.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

THE OVERTHROW OF AUSTRIA.—It is as well to state the truth at once. The Austrian army was beaten before the 3rd of July. It had lost morale. Its generals were disobedient; they violated the orders of their chief. They got soundly beaten; their men lost confidence in them and in themselves, and became filled with despondency. It may be remembered that in my account of the night march on Dubeneo I remarked how silent the men were. I did not then consider it significant, because I was not acquainted with the manners of the Austrian army; but I now know that silence was a sign that the men were out of heart, and that it was quite unusual. These men had been either engaged with the Prussians or had heard of the result of the combats at Skalitz and elsewhere. They were down-hearted; they were cowed; and although most of them fought bravely on the 3rd of July, and many regiments displayed a courage and endurance which their enemy thoroughly appreciated, and which could not have been surpassed by any troops in the world, on the whole it must be said the army fought without confidence, and that it lacked spirit and that sentiment of hope and belief in success which gives a body of men *elan*, and pervades them like a soul. Benedek perceived before the battle was fought that his army was not what it ought to be. It stands recorded as a solid and singular fact, that when he fought that battle he believed he would be beaten. Two days before the battle of Koniggratz the Commander-in-chief sent a message to the Emperor, which must have shaken his very throne, "Sire, you must make peace!"—*Dr. Russell.*

STATE OF VIENNA.—For some days past there has been a kind of *émeute*, but an *émeute* of the German kind—without cries or menaces—before the police-office. Workmen exhausted by hunger came to ask for labour or bread. A supply of the latter for one week was given—but afterwards? The Emperor, the Empress, and some of the grandees, have given liberally to this crowd, who are dispirited and homeless from want. The proclamation of the state of siege is explained by what takes place here each day. The time had come when the civil authority would have found itself disarmed in the presence of a double agitation. But the proclamation of the state of siege ought to have been dated in 1766. There is one paragraph of the proclamation by which corporal punishment is to be inflicted for certain crimes. In fact, the old Austrian policy has won back the ground which it had lost under the pressure of recent events.—*Vienna Letter in the Débats.*

BARON BEUST.—The most hated man in Germany at this moment is Baron Beust. It is a fact that he went to Paris three weeks ago to implore the armed mediation of France. Though a Saxon Minister, he in the present instance derived his commission chiefly from the Austrian Government. For this double dereliction of the duty he owed to his country his name is mentioned in the Prussian press as that of another Ephialtes.—*Letter from Berlin.*

GARIBALDI'S SELF-FORGETFULNESS.—So singularly imprudent is Garibaldi, that he will rush into the most unnecessary danger, and so marvellously destitute of the commonest instinct of self-preservation, that he would likely enough starve, were he not followed about by an English lady, who has taken upon herself the good work of carrying him his food daily, as the ravens did to Elijah. To a man, himself indefatigable, who never thinks about his own meals, and never remembers when he broke his fast last, the thought is not likely to suggest itself, though it is most important it should, that it is unreasonable to expect of troops which have been making forced marches for twenty-four hours, that they should fight well upon empty stomachs.—*Letter in the Daily News.*

THE NAVAL ACTION OFF LISSA.—The Italian papers now admit that the engagement between their fleet and the Austrian squadron was a disastrous defeat. "An Eyewitness," in a letter to the *Times*, states that on the day after the battle, the whole of the Austrian squadron, with the exception of some of the lighter vessels, was lying quietly in the harbour of Lissa, landing the dead and wounded and repairing damages, and that no Italian men-of-war were in sight from the highest look-out point of the island. He says that the Austrians attributed their victory to several causes:—

1. Better manœuvring on their side. The Italians had frequently been huddled together, so that their superiority of number had been paralysed, and Austrian officers even stated, with great glee, that the Italian ships had frequently run into each other, thus supporting the enemy.

2. Their mode of firing. They had always fired by divisions or concentrated broadsides, and these, frequently fired at three hundred yards and less, had been highly effective. The Italians had fired by single guns, and of course much more rapidly than the Austrians, causing a tremendous noise, but very little real damage. The Austrians not only had a great inferiority in the number of their guns, but also in the weight of metal; a considerable number of very heavy cast-steel guns, destined for the ironclads, and constructed by Krupp, in Essen, had been retained by the Prussian Government, so that they had been compelled to put the ordinary smooth-bore 48-pounders in their stead, and this gun, with a number of rifled 24-pounders, had been the armament used on the Austrian side, while the Italians had a large number of rifled 150-pounders, and in the *Affondatore* two 300-pounders. Yet from all evidence the Austrian fire had been by far the more effective, and this may perhaps be explained by the fact that they had a considerable number of steel shot, which, fired from smooth bore with high charges and great velocity, pierced the armour-plates of the Italians and did great damage. Almost in no case had the Italian shot gone

quite through the Austrian iron-plates; indeed, I saw no such case, but was told that in a very few instances this had happened; the others had either recoiled or stuck in the outer plates.

As for the Affondatore, about whose great doings the Italian papers are raving (one of them gives a detailed account as to how she had cut down and destroyed the Kaiser), the Austrian officers simply laugh at her—indeed, she had tried repeatedly to ram the line-of-battle ship, but always in vain; the latter had manoeuvred too well for her, and not only severely shaken her by a couple of well-applied broadsides, but even run into her herself, nearly capsizing her; after which she appeared to have got enough.

What the Austrians were proudest of was the fact that the whole of their matériel—ships, engines, armour-plating, and guns—was of Austrian production, and has withstood the test of real service admirably.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The German visitors to Paris evidently believe in coming peace, for already they have returned home by scores of families.

The *Times* Paris correspondent asserts that the result of the German war has occasioned a deep feeling of discontent in France. The Emperor himself was so confident of Austria being the victor, that he hardly concealed the hope that he should obtain the Rhine Provinces without the cost of a single man.

THE INTEGRITY OF ITALY.—Baron Ricasoli has written the following letter in reply to one addressed to him by the Deputy Biancheri:—"Florence, July 15.—Very esteemed Sir,—I can only write you a few lines, not having time to do more. As long as I remain Minister and as long as I live I do not see the possibility of our Italy losing an inch of her soil. Be assured of this, and tell the people so. If there breathe an Italian capable of intriguing so as to bring disgrace and injury upon his country, let him be pointed out, and then I hope the Government will do its duty. I know no crime more infamous than that which consists in bartering away what belongs to Italy.—I am, yours heartily, RICASOLI."

The accounts from the Prussian army for the *Times* are written by Captain Hosier, of the Guards. The *Moniteur de l'Armée* translated his account for its pages, and it is said that the King of Prussia is so pleased with the chronicler of his glory that he intends to decorate him.

The French Government has advertised for 1,000,000 kilogrammes of saltpetre, to be delivered before 1st December.

Prussia has positively declined the proposition of Russia for a congress of the signatory Powers of the Treaty of Vienna.

The French iron-clad squadron is now at moorings in the Gulf of Villefrance, near Nice.

The Liberal journals of Vienna insist upon the convocation of the Reichstag.

The Empress of Austria has arrived at Pesth. The Emperor is expected shortly. He will most probably be present at the national festival of St. Stephen.

It is stated that Mr. Henry, rifle-maker, has received a communication from a foreign Government desirous of knowing the cost at which he could supply 100,000 of his patent breech-loading military rifles.

For the last three weeks or more the principal Prussian journals have been full of lists of killed and wounded in the recent campaigns. On Monday week the *Cologne Gazette* (the largest paper in Germany) devoted fourteen columns to the dreadful lists, which are scanned so eagerly by thousands of families. On the previous day the same journal issued a supplement, which was entirely filled with the sad details; and yet the roll has not come down later than the battle of Gitchin on June 29.

The re-establishment of the Hungarian Constitution of 1848 is still adjourned, as a Federal union between Austria and Hungary will be first proposed to the Hungarians by Austria.

On the 29th of July General Klapka, who was at the head of a considerable number of volunteers, entered the county of Trentschin, in Hungary, by way of the Jablunka pass, but he returned at once to Silesia, as he soon had occasion to remark that the Hungarian peasants felt no sympathy either for him or his followers. Some of the soldiers who had accompanied him deserted.

The Italian Government are about to ask for a national or forced loan of 10,000,000*l*.

Letters from Venetia are full of complaint that the Austrians are preparing to remove large quantities of valuable documents from Venice, and hint that some of the pictures may also be taken away.

At Vienna the Federalist party are actively agitating for a reconstruction of the empire on their principles.

AMERICA.

The dates from New York by Atlantic telegraph are to August 3rd.

Mr. Harlan, the Secretary of the Interior, has resigned. Mr. Browning, of Illinois, has been appointed his successor. Grant has been created a full General, and Sherman a Lieutenant-General.

President Johnson signed the bill readmitting Tennessee, but sent a message to Congress stating that his signature was not to be considered as admitting the right of Congress to pass laws preliminary to the admission of States, nor as committing himself to statements made in the preamble. The Radical members received portions of the message with derisive laughter. The House resolved that when Congress adjourned it shall reassemble on the 2nd of October, and then readjourn until December.

The House adopted a resolution requesting the President to urge the Canadian authorities to release the Fenians captured in Canada, and also to abandon

the Federal prosecutions against the Fenians, if compatible with public interest.

The House of Representatives has passed unanimously a bill repealing the stringent provisions of the neutrality laws and modifying the penalties for their violation.

Numerous prominent Fenians were on the floor, watching the passing of the bill.

The Fenian Generals, Sweeny, Spear, and Mehan, have been released on bail at St. Alban's.

A political riot has taken place at New Orleans, necessitating the proclamation of martial law. Thirty-one negroes and one white man were killed, and several white men wounded.

In the Canadian Parliament the report of the state of the militia, including the military report of the commander, during the Fenian raid, was presented, and also the report of the court-martial for the investigation of the conduct of certain officers during the engagement at Bridgewater.

The cholera is increasing in New York.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The French journals announce the death, at Eprenay, of the widow Clicquot, of champagne celebrity, and well known for her benevolence.

Pompey O'Bannon, a negro suspected of the murder of a white woman in Georgia, has been burned to death at a stake by a mob after having his ear cut off.

The Empress of the French has just presented to the Imperial Library of Paris a large Bible, in two volumes, of the thirteenth century. It is written on vellum, and is exquisitely illustrated by hand.

COMPULSORY PHYSIOLOGY.—The Custom-house officials of New York are furnished with small vials, containing each an ounce of some greyish cholera mixture, with which they immediately dose each person, sick or well, who arrives in that port.

The Americans appear to be determined to bid high for the possession of a formidable artillery. By the last accounts from the other side of the Atlantic we have been informed that a monster gun has been successfully cast, which, with a charge of about 140*lb*. of powder, will throw a shot weighing 11 *cwt*.—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

Mr. George Peabody continues to dispense his bounties in America. He has presented Boston with 1,000,000 dollars to provide homes for the poor; has bestowed 50,000 dollars apiece on Harvard, Amherst, and Williams Colleges, in the State of Massachusetts; and has given 50,000 to each of his four nephews, one of whom is the local reporter on a newspaper in the town of Zanesville, Ohio.

PRESS PROSECUTIONS IN BELGIUM.—The editor of the *Épique* has been condemned to one year's imprisonment, a fine of 1,000*l*., and the costs, for the publication of the caricature which was made the subject of an article in the *Constitutionnel*. Messrs. Vennier and Roses have been found guilty and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment, a fine of 1,000*l*., and the legal costs, for libelling the Emperor and Empress of the French by the publication of the two works, "Mariage d'une Espagnole" and "La Femme de César."

THE SEPTEMBER CONVENTION.—The fulfilment of the Convention of September, by withdrawing the French troops from the Roman States, at the same time providing for the safety of the Holy Father, is the cause of much perplexity to this Government. It is apprehended that the "party of action" may prove strong enough to create much embarrassment to the Italian Government in carrying out its part of the Convention, and that it may be the signal for serious troubles in Italy. These are matters which occupy the attention of the Emperor, M. Drouyn de Lhuys, and M. Nigra, at Vichy.—*Letter from Florence*.

ACCIDENT TO THE PRINCE IMPERIAL.—A Paris correspondent of the *Indépendance Belge*, writing on the 30th ult., says:—"The Prince Imperial had a fall on Saturday at St. Cloud while going through gymnastic exercises; for a time some anxiety was felt, as the Prince lost all consciousness, and it was thought that the Emperor's departure would be delayed; but Dr. Nélaton, when called in, declared there was no danger. The Prince had recovered his senses, and his state, which had never been serious, is quite satisfactory."

THE DEATH OF SIGNOR FARINI is announced. Few men came more prominently forward in the great movement by which the unity of Italy was assured. He was a physician who, having been expelled from Rome for political causes, was created Dictator of Modena in 1860, when the Duke was driven out. Subsequently Farini was Governor of Naples. He was a man in whom Count Cavour placed the most implicit confidence. He filled various places in the Italian Ministry; but he worked too hard, and brought on softening of the brain. In this lamentable condition he had been for some time. In Italy he will be deeply lamented.

THE PRESS IN FRANCE.—The *Courrier du Dimanche* has been suppressed by Imperial decree. An article from the brilliant and satirical pen of M. Prevost-Paradol is put forth as the reason for this severe measure. The real cause is probably to be found in the fact that a short time ago, when some heavy censures were being levelled against the press in Paris, the *Courrier du Dimanche* republished without comment the protest of the Paris journalists against a repressive measure of Charles X. That protest was the beginning of the revolution which drove Charles from the throne and led to the installation of Louis Philippe.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS AND THE CHOLERA.—A curious dispute is going on among the journals of

Belgium. The Ultramontane journals of that country represent pilgrimages, nine days' prayer (*neuvaines*), and processions, as cholera remedies, of which the action is much more efficacious than that of all purely human means. The *Indépendance* opposes figures to that declaration, and shows that the day after the last procession in Brussels the mortality increased in that city 50 per cent., and that, on the contrary, the day after the pilgrimages had ceased, on the interference of the burgomaster, the number of deaths had returned to a normal state. The figures furnished to the journals by the communal administration give for the 12th July 23 deaths; for the 13th, an increase of nearly half, 33; and for the 14th, 20, or a diminution of more than half. For this simple statement the *Indépendance* is looked on with horror by the devotees. It is accused of blasphemies, of "impieties," the cynicism of which revolts the conscience, and the *Journal de Bruxelles* warns it that, if the mortality has augmented of late among children, it is a punishment from heaven, irritated because the processions have been interrupted.

MR. GLADSTONE AND LORD DUNKELLIN'S AMENDMENT.

At a meeting of the East Kent Liberal Registration, held on Saturday at Canterbury, for the purpose of considering the conduct of Sir E. Dering in voting against the late Government upon the rating question of the Reform Bill, the following letters, which had been sent to Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, were read:—

11, Carlton House-terrace, S. W., July 30.

My dear Hugessen,—I have received your letter, enclosing a copy of one addressed by Sir Edward Dering on the 16th of July to Lieutenant-General Williams; and, as you have asked my opinion on the case, I shall consider your request as my warrant for commenting on a matter which is indeed of great public interest, but in which I have no title whatever to interfere.

I cannot say that Sir Edward Dering's reasons for voting with Lord Dunkellin have, in my view, any weight. He says it was not proposed by Lord Dunkellin, or by any one else, to substitute a 7*l*. rating for a 7*l*. rental. But I apprehend this very thing was proposed by Mr. Cave, the gentleman selected to second the motion. The mover, I think, stated his preference for a 6*l*. rating, which would have excluded a large number whom we had proposed to enfranchise. Sir E. Dering will recollect that the speakers for the amendment were gentlemen opposed either to the bill or to the franchise clauses. He says the Government should have proposed a rating franchise of an amount not higher than the 7*l*. rental franchise. Now, as 6*l*. rating would have been materially higher, he must apparently mean that we ought to have proposed a 5*l*. rating franchise. But this, the next lowest figure, would have given an enfranchisement materially larger than that of the bill. I wonder Sir E. Dering does not see that if we had done this we should for the first time have given colour, and even more than colour, to the charge which has from the beginning been urged against us with such persistency and such gross and palpable injustice,—the charge of having disregarded the fears and scruples of the moderate, and of having leant to the doctrines of extreme politicians. What he recommends as the obvious and easy remedy for the dilemma was in our view wholly inadmissible.

But it is one question whether the vote, or the reasons given for it, are good, and it is another whether I, if I were an elector of East Kent, should withhold my support from Sir Edward Dering on account of it. It ought, I think, now to be the great object of all who are interested either in the Liberal party, or in the subject of Parliamentary Reform, to bring about such a union of sentiment in the party as may obviate all risk of the repetition of the late unhappy events, and may secure a speedy and satisfactory settlement of the question. I give entire credence to any declaration proceeding from Sir E. Dering; and, examining his letter, with the view I have described, I find its meaning unequivocal, especially where he says that by proposing an equivalent enfranchisement in an altered form we should, "if beaten on that vital point," have "put ourselves in the right and our opponents in the wrong." This proves, without entering into minute criticism, that Sir E. Dering was friendly to the substance of our measure. On that ground, without in the least degree qualifying my opinion as to the particular vote, I not only, if I were one of your brother electors, should not vote against Sir E. Dering, but I should continue to afford him exactly the same support as if that vote had not been given. I read his letter, and accept his declarations, in the spirit of confidence, and not in the spirit of suspicion. We, the supporters of the bill, who have had occasion to feel how the spirit of suspicion poisons the atmosphere of politics, and renders hopeless what otherwise, though difficult, was practicable enough, should, I think, set an example of discarding it and of interpreting and treating others as we wish to be treated and interpreted ourselves.

I remain, my dear Hugessen, sincerely yours,
W. E. GLADSTONE.

E. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Esq., M.P.

Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park, S. W.,
Aug. 2, 1866.

My dear Hugessen,—I am quite prepared to endorse Gladstone's letter to you. I have returned it to him with that opinion. Pray do all you can to soften the stout Liberals of your county, and tell them that the leaders of the party, with Gladstone and me at their head, think they ought to support Dering. If he agrees to the 5*l*. rating franchise, as I understand him to do, he ought to be taken back into the fold.

Yours very truly,
RUSSELL.

The reading of these letters evoked great applause. Sir E. DERING then entered into a minute explanation of his motives for supporting Lord Dunkellin's amendment, and disclaimed all attention in so doing of seeking to retard the passing of the bill. He had

simply supported the amendment because he considered a rating qualification to be a more convenient arrangement than one of rental, and he had not expected that upon a mere question of detail the Government would have resigned their offices.

A prolonged discussion ensued, and a motion of censure upon Sir E. Dering was proposed, but was not pressed, it being finally agreed, upon the motion of Sir W. JAMES, to let the matter stand over without pronouncing any opinion upon the subject.

CONDITION OF THE EAST OF LONDON.

The Rev. G. W. McCree, the missionary of St. Giles's, thus described in the *Star* his observations as to the sanitary and moral condition of the East of London as the result of several recent visits:—

No dweller at the West-end can have any conception of its crowded apartments, narrow alleys, swarming dogs and children; slaughter-houses reeking with blood; pawnbrokers' shops filled to repletion with the pledges of the poor; factories, yards, and workshops, tall, noisy, ill-ventilated, and very dirty; crooked, unswept, and unsavoury lanes, where every woman seems consumptive, and every man half-starved; beershops, the haunts of thieves, and ginshops echoing with the gabble and blasphemies of heated, angry, wretched people; the famous "Highway," with its sailors, crimps, hawkers, soldiers, pickpockets, watermen, negro melodists, butchers' men, Lascars, dock labourers, flaunting women, more cruel than tigers, policemen walking in pairs, ship-captains with gay girls hanging on their arms, touts from boarding houses, grimy stokers, Irish emigrants, beggars, and pugilists—in brief, its noise, dirt, crime, want, disease, and misery.

Nor have the public generally any conception of the lamentable condition of hundreds of the children, and the boys and girls at the East-end of London. It is simply fearful. Sunday-schools, ragged-schools, and Bands of Hope confer great benefits upon many of them, but the majority are shamefully neglected by their parents. Let any one walk through Poplar, Spitalfields, Whitechapel, Commercial-road, Ratcliff Highway, Aldgate, and Back Church-lane, as I have done, and he will see scores of children who are not children, but little withered imps of cruelty, falsehood, and vice. He will also see elder boys and girls who are the victims of the most precocious passions—hard, foul, repulsive, and savage, who hate the parents who forsook them, the law that punishes them, and the Christians who would fain reclaim them. He will hear them coin oaths with horrible facility, see them drink gin like water, and should they quarrel, he will witness such a fight as will make him expect a murder.

The twin monsters of this vast district of the metropolis are Dirt and Drunkenness. King Dirt is everywhere. There is a foetid smell, a sickly atmosphere, which makes you feel faint and weary. Your lips grow clammy; your linen looks yellow; your hands get defiled; your eyes grow dim; you long for green fields, fresh air, flowers, and bright skies. But, alas! they are not near you, and if, perchance, you should pass some building with "Ragged-school" over the door, and looking in see a number of poor, white, forlorn children, who, when the teacher says "Rise," stand up and sing—

There is a happy land,
Far, far away,

you pass on with tears in your eyes, for you feel, also, that the happy land is indeed "far, far away."

King Drunkenness, however, reigns quite as much as King Dirt. There are thousands of sober men and women in the East of London, no doubt, and the Bands of Hope there will, it is anticipated, do much to produce a sober future; but any one who explores the localities infected with cholera, and also the contiguous parishes, will be shocked at the evident supremacy of drunkenness. Many men and women seem to drink apparently nearly every penny they can spare, and many which they cannot spare. Hence, ragged, desolate homes, crime, pauperism, and now pestilence in its most fatal form. I do not exaggerate the state of things. An agent of the London City Mission says:—"There is perhaps more wickedness in Shadwell than in any other parish in London. As you walk through the streets the scenes of wickedness that meet your eyes, and the profane language that sounds upon your ears, cannot be described. If such wickedness is met with in the public streets, what is to be met with in public-houses where men and women meet to practise wickedness, and to strive to excel each other in sin, and where that man is counted a king among men who can swear the loudest, and who is most fruitful in inventing fresh deeds of darkness?"

The seafaring part of the population are much addicted to intemperance, and this tends to produce many sanitary and social evils. A competent witness writes:—"It is really lamentable to see the number of our English seamen who live more like the beasts that perish than men possessing immortal souls; and what is a disgrace to our country may be seen in our docks at all times when a ship is leaving for some foreign port, in the fact that our seamen seem as if they could not face the winds and the waves, nor take farewell of their native shores, but in a state of intoxication. The brave and noble captain of the ill-fated ship London said to me before leaving the docks on his last voyage, 'It is a great pity we cannot get our sailors to leave our ports in a sober state.'"

An intelligent missionary, who labours in the east, states that Millwall, Cubitt-town, Blackwall, Poplar, The Orchard, and Poplar New Town, contain 200 public-houses! What wonder is it, then, that King Drunkenness reigns?

The prevalence of cholera in these parts is, doubtless, increased by the prevalence of intemperate habits. Such habits are associated with late hours, unwashed bodies, filthy homes, predisposition to infection, improper food, heats and colds, debilitated constitutions, and a morbid fear of death—all of which tend to spread the pestilence. Thus, a woman, whose brother resides in Scotland, wrote to him for help in the present distress, and he sent her some clothing. She took it to the pawnshop, thence she went to the public-house and got drunk. Both she and her daughter have died of cholera. Another hideous occurrence took place on Sunday last. The driver of a hearse on a "cholera job" fell from his seat, and lay sprawling in the street, shouting "Cholera, cholera!" He was drunk!

What can be done to check this horrid vice? One thing might be done. Every publican who supplies liquor to drunken persons should be summoned before a magistrate and fined in the most severe manner. No publican who allows men to get drunk on his premises, or serves them when intoxicated, should be permitted by the police to do so. It is a social crime for any class to profit by drunkenness at such a crisis as this. Drunkenness breeds cholera as marshes breed fever.

Dr. Sewall, who visited the cholera hospitals of New York, states that of 204 cases in Park Hospital, there were "only six temperate persons."

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.

We learn from Newfoundland that the Great Eastern is to start for the grapple ground to attempt the recovery of last year's cable this evening or to-morrow morning.

Mr. Latimer Clark, who has officially examined the Atlantic cable, reports:—

The cable, as you have doubtless already heard, is in a most satisfactory electrical condition, and with the apparatus now used gives fully six words per minute. With improved apparatus it will give much more, and by the use of codes I expect fully thrice that speed will be obtained. The present signals are strong and excellent.

Before leaving Sheerness the insulation of the cable was 713 million Siemens units per knot. This steadily increased as the cable was paid out, and is now as high as 2,300 million units per knot. This increase is due partly to temperature and partly to pressure, and I will shortly calculate the influence of these combined causes, and give you the insulation of this cable and the Persian Gulf cable at a uniform temperature and pressure for comparison.

It is to be regretted that the Newfoundland line is not in an efficient state, as that would have added greatly to the éclat of the opening. We have one and all formed the most sanguine opinions as to the permanence and security of the line, as well as concerning the probability of repairing the 1865 cable, which we quite expect to see put to work again shortly.

The following answer has been returned by the Governor-General of Canada to the message transmitted by Lord Carnarvon in the name of her Majesty:—

VISCOUNT MONCK TO THE EARL OF CARNARVON.

CABLE.—Your message of July 28 received. Present my humble duty to the Queen, and assure her Majesty that her Majesty's gratification at the additional strength which the completion of the Atlantic Telegraph will give to the unity of her empire is shared by all her subjects in British North America.

Ottawa, August 1.

MONCK.

An exchange of courtesies has just passed between the Mayor of Vancouver's Island and the Lord Mayor, by telegraph, the one trying to embody in his message the feeling of the colony, and the other that of the mother country. The first message was received at the Mansion-house on Friday night, and was in these terms:—

Franklin, Mayor, Vancouver, July 31, to Lord Mayor, London.

The infant colony Vancouver, 8,000 miles distant, sends telegraphic cordial greetings to Mother England.

To this the Lord Mayor of London, taking up the vein, and reciprocating the sentiments of his far distant correspondent, replied by telegraph as follows:—

To the Mayor of Vancouver's Island.

Mother England acknowledges the cordial greeting of her infant son Vancouver. May peace, good will, and unanimity unite and prosper our happy family!

It will be observed that three days were occupied in the transmission of the message between Vancouver's Island and this country. It would be carried across the Continent of America to Newfoundland—how far by telegraph does not appear. Seven hours, or thereabouts, would be spent in conveying it by steamer from the American coast to Newfoundland, a distance of seventy miles; from twelve to fourteen hours thence by the Atlantic Cable to Valentia, and thence to London about an hour more, making three days and nights, or seventy-two hours. Altogether it must have travelled, taking the whole route, at the rate of upwards of 111 miles an hour, but in the seventy miles from the American shore to Newfoundland it would only be conveyed at the rate of ten miles an hour.

Similar messages have been exchanged between the Mayor of New York and the Lord Mayor of London. The latter telegraphed:—

May our commerce flourish, and may peace and prosperity unite us!

The response from New York was as follows:—

The energy and genius of man, directed by the Providence of God, have united the continents. May this be instrumental in securing the happiness of all nations and the rights of all people!

At a meeting held at Bradford on Monday, and presided over by the Mayor, it was decided to forward a congratulatory message to the President of the United States on the completion of telegraphic communication between England and America.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.—The representation of Brecon has become vacant by the elevation of the Earl of Brecknock to the peerage of Marquis Camden. The noble Earl was returned unopposed only a few months since on the death of Colonel Lloyd Vaughan Watkins. Mr. Howel Morgan, late High Sheriff of Merionethshire, a gentleman who has some property in Brecknockshire, is spoken of as a candidate. Colonel Lindsay was re-elected for Abingdon on Monday for the seat vacated by his appointment as groom-in-waiting.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 8, 1866.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords yesterday, a very large number of bills were advanced in their several stages.

Lord DERBY, in moving the second reading of the Indemnity Bill, expressed a hope that, as the whole question of oaths was now undergoing consideration by a Royal Commission, this would be the last occasion on which it would be necessary to propose such a bill as this. The bill was read a second time, and, the standing orders having been suspended, it also passed through its remaining stages.

Lord WESTMOUTH having inquired whether the Bishop of London, who had condemned the extreme ritualistic practices of certain clergymen, intended to take any proceedings against those persons, Lord DERBY regretted that the Bishop of London was not present to answer the question, but, for himself, could only say that, while regretting some of the practices referred to, there were certain matters in reference to which the Church allowed considerable latitude.

Their Lordships adjourned at ten minutes past six o'clock.

In the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. WAL-POL (in reply to Mr. P. A. Taylor) explained and justified a recent judgment of Mr. Knox in dismissing a charge against one of the police in connection with the Hyde Park riots.

In answer to a question from Mr. Hubbard (who also moved for papers), the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was true that the Turkish Government had failed to provide the interest and redemption fund due on the 1st of August on their 1855 loan of 5,000,000*l.*, which was guaranteed by England and France; but the Turkish Ambassador had informed him that the money necessary for the interest and the sinking fund had been transmitted from Constantinople, and might be expected in this country in a few days. The British Government, however, immediately the failure took place, had taken steps for paying the interest. It was impossible to say what course the Government would take for the eventual fulfilment of their guarantee without consulting with their co-guarantor, the French Government.

Lord STANLEY, in reply to some observations from Mr. Ayrton, calling attention to the negotiations for the abolition of the navigation laws in foreign countries, promised to keep our corps diplomatique alive to this subject, though he believed it wiser, on the whole, not to press foreign Governments too closely, as they were apt to conclude, if we were over pertinacious, that we had some overweening advantage to gain for ourselves.

The Public Schools Bill was withdrawn.

The Lords' amendments to the Straits Settlements Bill, the Suburban Commons Bill, the Cattle Diseases Prevention Act Amendment Bill, and other bills, were agreed to.

The House adjourned at a quarter to seven o'clock until Friday.

LATEST FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The Emperor Napoleon has returned suddenly to Paris to hold a Cabinet Council. It is said that a hitch in Italian affairs is the cause of this.

The Paris papers do not seem to admire the speech of the King of Prussia. They complain of its coldness and stiffness, and especially that it makes no mention whatever of the mediation of the Emperor of the French. Probably the King of Prussia will not be much affected by these criticisms.

A fearful storm is reported to have swept over the Adriatic. The Italian fleet in harbour at Ancona has suffered severely, and the iron-clad ram *Affondatore* was sunk. The *Affondatore* was built by the Millwall Shipbuilding Company. Efforts are being made to raise her.

It is said that General Manteuffel has been sent on a special mission from Berlin to St. Petersburg.

The Upper Chamber at Berlin has unanimously adopted a motion for the presentation of an address to the King.

The South German States have renewed their endeavours to obtain the intervention of Russia at the Court of Berlin, but the Imperial Government has not hitherto made any engagement to that effect.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

Fresh up to our market to-day the arrivals of wheat from Essex and Kent were only moderate. Only a moderate business was transacted in both red and white parcels, but the prices realised were fully equal to Monday. With foreign wheat the market was well supplied. The trade ruled firm, and late rates were well supported. In floating cargoes of grain sales progressed slowly, on former terms. Barley was in fair supply and moderate request, at about Monday's quotations. Malt commanded but little attention, at stationary prices. There was a good show of oats on offer. Fine parcels were disposed of at full quotations, but inferior qualities met a slow sale, at the late decline.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.				
	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.
English and Scotch	410	—	880	1,930
Irish	—	40	—	100
Foreign	7,320	1,600	—	47,990
				1,750 a/s.

The speech of the King of Prussia on opening his Chambers was telegraphed *in extenso* to New York by the London correspondent of the *New York Herald* at the cost of about 1,000*l.*

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The Terms for Advertising in THE NONCONFORMIST are as follows:—

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

“A Nonconformist.”—His letter has reached us too late for insertion.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1866.

SUMMARY.

THE official text of the preliminaries of peace agreed to at Nikolsburg has now been published. The terms are substantially the same as those which have been some time before the world. Austria consents not only to a dissolution of the German Bund, but to a new organisation of the Fatherland from which she will be excluded, and to the formation of a Southern union, “whose national bonds with the Confederation of North Germany will form the object of an ulterior understanding between the two parties.” The important fact is revealed that Austria has no intention of becoming a member of the second Confederation, but leaves that body to mature its own arrangements. As Saxony, though to remain territorially intact, is to join the North German Empire without the power of independent action, and as the Germans south of the Main have an especial horror of a Federal Bund which would fall under the protection of France, it is doubtful whether any second Confederation will be eventually organised, or if formed, maintained for any length of time. The Protestant inhabitants, at least, of Baden and Wurtemberg, are demanding a close union with Prussia, and the new territorial arrangements dictated by that victorious Power are well adapted to prevent South Germany from raising its head as an independent Power. There is no doubt, however, that Austria has accepted the preliminaries in good faith, that she has no thought of renewing hostilities, and that every important question has been settled by the diplomatists of Nikolsburg. It is probable, therefore, that before another fortnight has elapsed, the full treaty of peace will have been signed, and the war between Prussia and Austria have been brought to an end. The information supplied from Vienna plainly shows that the Kaiser could not have recommenced hostilities with any reasonable prospect of success against his Prussian foe.

Grave difficulties still interpose to prevent a pacific arrangement between Austria and Italy. No regular armistice between the two Powers has yet been concluded, but only a truce which expires on Friday next. By the engagements entered into at Nikolsburg, Prussia “undertakes to determine” the King of Italy “to give his approval to the preliminaries of peace and to the armistice based upon the preliminaries, immediately the Venetian Kingdom shall have been placed at his disposal by a declaration of his Majesty the Emperor of the French.” But Prussian influence has not yet availed to induce Italy to accept peace on such unpalatable terms. She will, after all, have to receive Venetia from Napoleon III., and Austria refuses to cede to her the Italian Tyrol—though the greater part of it is occupied by Garibaldi and Medici—and has sent an army of 90,000 men from Vienna to sustain her resolve by force of arms. Unless, therefore, diplomacy shall step in, and prevent a renewal of the conflict by inducing Austria to recede from her position, hostilities are likely to be resumed in Venetia and the Tyrol before the end of the present week, and the Italian army under Cialdini may at length have the satisfaction of fighting a battle with their foes. The fear of a renewal of the war has brought the Emperor Napoleon back to Paris, and it is evident that he will have great difficulty in persuading the exasperated Italians, with Ricasoli at their head, to accept an arrangement

which will, it is seen, lay the foundation of future strife and bitterness.

The French people are greatly discontented at the turn of European events, jealous of the aggrandisement of Prussia, and of the formation of a great and united German empire on their frontier, and disappointed at the ill success of their mediating Sovereign. Count Bismark ventures now to act with small consideration for his great ally at the Tuileries, and Italy, indignant at the late transaction with Austria, has broken loose from French patronage, and pursues her own course. Altogether this year's war has not increased the *prestige* of the Emperor. He is no longer the arbiter in Europe, and will probably lose those substantial gains in territory which induced him to acquiesce and remain neutral in the war. Probably Napoleon III. has received no heavier blow since he ascended the throne of France.

The news from America is not agreeable. The breach between Mr. Johnson and Congress is daily widening. The President vetoes the Bills of the Legislature, and they in turn adjourn to October instead of December lest the occupant of the White House should organise a *coup d'état*! Mr. Montgomery Blair, Mr. Johnson's lieutenant, predicts “that should the Radicals carry the elections in October, the result would be the establishment of two Presidents and two Congresses; for the Radical sectional majority would immediately impeach President Johnson and turn him out; and, on the other hand, the Democratic members of Congress would unite with the regularly elected members from the South.” He declares that the United States are “on the eve of another civil war, the battle-fields of which will be in the North,” which the *New York Independent* characterises as “wilting intelligence.” Before, however, things come to this pass, “the great Philadelphia Conservative Convention” will be held in New York, and the novelty of the meeting will be the presence of Southern delegates, who are expected to re-affirm the doctrine of secession and to make the Convention “stink in the nostrils of nine-tenths of the people of the North.” But the States have passed through too much trouble to allow of another rebellion, and we doubt not some means will be eventually found of admitting the South to constitutional privileges without sacrificing the rights of the emancipated negroes.

It speaks but little for the honesty of either section of politicians in America that both are paying court to the Fenians. The Democrats have passed a vote of sympathy with these firebrands, and the Radical section in Congress, not to be outdone, have actually carried through the House of Representatives a bill for relaxing the neutrality laws, so as to allow the sale of American ships and steamers and war ammunition to the inhabitants of other countries or governments not at war with the United States, and repealing the Acts requiring the owners of armed vessels departing from America to give bonds for good conduct. If this Bill were to become law, Fenian cruisers might be sent forth from New York without molestation to prey on British commerce. But such an act of defiance to England is not likely, we hope, to be accepted. It is simply a hollow and discreditable party manoeuvre to purchase Irish votes. A proposal of our Government to submit the Alabama claims to arbitration would be the most effectual means of quashing these dangerous projects. “It would,” says the *Daily News* correspondent, “wipe out most of the ill-feeling generated by the language of the English press and of English statesmen during the war; for, in spite of all that has happened, it is impossible not to see that the great mass of the community here—the best portion of it certainly—do really desire to live on good terms with England, and do sincerely regret everything which makes cordial alliance with her impossible.”

PRUSSIA'S KING TO HER PARLIAMENT.

WE never thought to praise King William of Prussia. The worse than puerile folly of which he was guilty at his coronation settled our estimate of his character. The policy he has since sanctioned seemed to us to be just what might have been anticipated from a Sovereign associating such great pretensions with so little sense. The war with Denmark, and the fuss made over its successful termination, deepened the unfavourable impression which the Royal antecedents had made. The King's quarrel with his Parliament, and the spirit in which it was carried on, increased both our dislike of him and our contempt for him, and neither the one nor the other was lessened by the way in which he had picked a quarrel with Austria. But after all, he has shown himself to possess some redeeming qualities, of heart certainly, if not of head. Of these he has just given unequivocal proof. In the moment of victory—of victory more complete than can be matched in modern history—the King has revealed the virtue that is in him. The moderation of the terms he accepted from Austria, when Austria seemed to lie prostrate at his feet, excited our admiring surprise. But the tone

in which he has addressed his Parliament, and the justice he has spontaneously done its predecessors, strike us as incontestable evidence that there must be right stuff at the bottom of his character, and that his nature is better than his policy. He has done what Sovereigns have seldom done before—he has made the hour of his triumph the hour likewise of his humility, and has offered the ripest fruit of his pride upon the altar of his conscience.

The King of Prussia has just opened a new Parliament. There is reason to believe that he might have done with it almost as he pleased. Elected under the auspices of military success, it was expected to accept by a majority of votes his previous interpretation of the Charter. His Minister, backed by his unfailing support, had claimed the power of the purse for the Crown, and year after year had treated with contumely the reiterated claims of the Representative House to regulate the Budget. His own language in opening and in dismissing former Parliaments endorsed the insolent pretensions of Count Von Bismark. Acting as a monarch whose prerogative sets him above law, he had silently prepared to measure strength with Austria. The career of his army had been one of unbroken and unprecedented success, and had raised him to a foremost position among European Sovereigns. It seemed as though nothing could resist his *fiat*. He could look France or Russia in the face and assert his independence. He could appeal to his own subjects and extort their assent to his policy. Now, if ever, it was natural to suppose, he would play the despot, refuse to be held in restraint by laws he had previously repudiated, and assume a dictatorship limited only by his good pleasure. And yet it is from this height that he proclaims the illegality of his past proceedings, judged of by the Constitution he had sworn to obey. It is now that he has chosen to ask an indemnity for the course pursued by his own Government. It is at this juncture that he re-surrenders to the Representative House the power of the purse, and offers the best apology he is able for having arrogated it to himself. History presents us with no complete parallel.

The passage in which this confession and surrender is made is worth repeating. The manliness and sincerity of the tone which runs through it are particularly impressive. Listen!—

An agreement with the representatives of the country as to the settlement of the Budget has not been able to be effected in the last few years. The State outlay incurred during this period is therefore destitute of that legal basis which, as I again acknowledge, the Budget can alone receive through the law. Art. 99 of the Constitution ordains it annually to be agreed upon between my Government and the two Houses of the Diet. Although my Government has, nevertheless, carried on the Budget for several years without this legal basis, this has only been done after conscientious examination, and in the conviction, in accordance with duty, that the conduct of a settled administration, the fulfilment of legal obligations towards public creditors and officials, the maintenance of the army and of the State establishments, were questions vital to the existence of the State, and that the course adopted therefore became one of those inevitable necessities which, in the interest of the country, a Government cannot and must not hesitate to adopt. I trust that recent events will in so far contribute to effect the indispensable understanding that an indemnity for having carried on the administration without a law regulating the Budget, application for which will be made to the representatives, will readily be granted to my Government, and the hitherto existing conflict be therewith finally and the more securely brought to a conclusion, as it may be expected that the political position of the Fatherland will admit an extension of the frontiers of the State and the establishment of an united Federal army under the leadership of Prussia, the costs of which will be borne in equal proportions by all members of the Confederation.

It was whispered abroad several days before the Prussian Parliament met that Count Von Bismark contemplated some such stroke of policy; but whether it was suggested by the sagacious Minister to a willing Master, or imposed by the leal-hearted Master upon an unwilling Minister, there is nothing before us to show. No doubt, the concession was recommended by sound sense as well as by generous feeling. A contest which may have been quite safe where Prussia only was concerned, might be very much otherwise where the interests of the whole of North Germany are implicated. Bismark and the Junkers might be all-powerful within the one area, not at all so within the other. Prussia is about to annex or absorb several States which have until now helped to divide Germany. She has summoned a German Parliament to reorganise the German people. She can count upon their passion for national unity—but she is aware that her high-handed administration of her domestic affairs has awakened distrust of her intentions. Protestant Germany is inclined to Liberalism—in a certain way, and with certain exceptions, is democratically disposed. The sense of freedom which pervades Germany differs in many respects from that which characterises England. Many things which would be thought intolerable here, are preferred there. But, on the whole, the will of the people is thought to be the ultimate authority upon which political institutions and action should be grounded, and the power of the purse is held to be the best guarantee of civil and political freedom. Count Bismark may have foreseen that what he had steadfastly refused

to Prussia, North Germany would be strong enough to extort from him, and that meanwhile the necessity of extorting it would damp the ardour of the enthusiasm which is expected to render the work of annexation an easy and a popular one. What more likely to dissipate remaining prejudice, and give an irresistible impulse to the law of gravitation which sways the German mind, than a spontaneous renunciation of the claim to the monarchical control of taxation and expenditure which he has so pertinaciously insisted upon in Prussia? "Thorough" is the motto which best describes the character of his policy. If he saw reason to concede what the Prussian Parliament has unceasingly demanded, it is quite in accordance with his usual manner to do so in a way which would win for him all the advantages of concession. No half-measure would commend itself to his judgment. He would yield, not to expediency, but to right, and by his acknowledgment of error extinguish not merely the localised contest, but the very source from which contest could originate elsewhere. If this be the explanation of the King's speech, it shows the keen foresight and the wise statesmanship of the Minister, without necessarily disproving the kind and patriotic feeling of the Sovereign who assented to it.

Let the cause of it be what it may, the fact is in the highest degree gratifying and significant. It points forward to a constitutional as well as a single organisation of the German people. How much this implies in regard to the rest of Europe we have incidentally glanced at on former occasions. The time is near at hand, we hope, when accomplished facts will require to be looked at more closely in their bearing upon European peace, prosperity, and progress. It is a theme which in its practical shape we shall most heartily welcome.

PESTILENCE AT THE EAST END.

"THE explosion of disease," as the Registrar-General has fitly designated the sudden and extensive outbreak of malignant cholera in the eastern districts of the metropolis, has not, we are sorry to say, exhausted its destructive force. For the present, indeed, its ravages are confined to the area in which it first appeared, but it seems extremely unlikely that it will not soon overpass its local limits. We have heard no scientific reason assigned for its concentration upon one particular spot. Doubtless, there are causes enough to account for its virulence there, but the same causes are almost equally numerous and operative in some other parts of London upon which nevertheless the epidemic has gained no extensive footing. This partial distribution of the evil, while it is a sore calamity to the district chiefly affected, renders it comparatively easier to direct against it the combined charitable and medical force of the whole of the metropolis. The thing most to be feared is that theoretical dogmas on the subject of local administration, good enough in themselves when timely and wisely applied, will be allowed to stand in the way of measures urgently required *pro hac vice*, and that official red-tapeism will hinder the development of that temporary organisation, activity, and expenditure, which could be effected by the Legislature without serious difficulty, and from which alone any rapid improvement can be confidently expected.

In the first place, we must express, not our surprise, but our disgust, that with such a terrible calamity staring them in the face, Parliament is about to separate for six months, it may be, without making any serious effort to grapple with the evil. Remembering what was done during the first fortnight of the present Session to stay the plague which was then decimating our herds, it strikes us as indecent that a fortnight or a month, if necessary, should be grudged now, when the suffering and death have fallen upon men instead of cattle. Is it then absolutely necessary that, under every or any set of circumstances whatsoever, members shall be dismissed to their recreations before the end of August? Can no emergency prevail upon them to steal a week or two from September, with the view, if possible, of devising and putting together some legislative machinery for dealing with a foe so deadly as the cholera? Mr. Disraeli says, with pedantic pomposity, that "it would be most unwise, if, in a moment of alarm, and in a great hurry, the Government were to come forward and to ask for an Act which would change the principle upon which our system of local administration has been framed." And this he says on the same evening on which the Premier in the Upper House was asking the continuance for six months longer of an Act which originally passed both Houses on one night, and which, for the time being, changes the system upon which all our personal liberties rest for protection. No one wishes the Government to take advantage of a passing but severe calamity to effect a permanent alteration of any system whatever—local or otherwise. What is wanted is a specific and temporary measure for the abatement of a specific and temporary evil—legislative authority for the organisation of a qualified body, with whom

shall be lodged for a few weeks or months the responsibility of dealing with the disease, the power, for instance, of overruling local vestries and boards, of dealing with nuisances, and of raising necessary funds so as to distribute the pecuniary burden over the entire metropolis. Surely, some such Act might have been framed and passed, within a few days, under the provisions of which all that is now desirable and lacking might have been provided, for as long a time at least as the complaint lasts, or Parliament is not in Session.

The truth is, that what in this congregation of populous cities goes by the name of "local government" is no government at all. It is merely a legally authorised mechanism, to which is delegated the duty of contriving "how not to do it." Why, at a moment like this, are there no separate and commodious buildings set apart in every parish, at any rate where the disease is rife, as hospitals for cholera patients? Why is there no sufficient arrangement for separating the sick from the healthy? Why is there no authority competent to compel a supply of good water, and, where it is supplied, or capable of being supplied, to make temporary provision for its being properly stored for use? Why is the burial of the dead left to individual convenience, oftentimes to the painful embarrassment of poor people who are at their wits' end as to what they should do? Why, in short, are the thousand and one contrivances which might mitigate the pressure of this dire calamity left, not to fructify, but to die away and be forgotten, in the minds of men, for want of a central authority to carry them into effect? Why? But because Parliament is impatient to be off to the country, and "local government" must not be hastily interfered with—perhaps also in part because the West End does not wish to be saddled with a rate-in-aid for the relief of the East End.

Well, at least we are glad to see that the wealthier citizens are not disposed to shirk their duty on the occasion. They have met under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, have organised a Relief Committee, and have commenced a subscription which we can hardly doubt will soon reach noble proportions. This is something. There are more modest associations, too, such as are referred to in the letter of the Rev. J. Kennedy, of Stepney, to be found in another column, which may be trusted to for doing what they can for the alleviation of the present distress, and which we hope will be promptly supplied with all requisite pecuniary means. By such prompt help, our friends can best express their grateful appreciation of the noble, self-denying work to which that minister and his coadjutors are, at no little personal risk, devoting themselves. We trust that Mr. Hardy will do his best, and feel convinced that he will spare no pains to do whatever lies within the power of the Board over which he presides. The main want, however, in such an emergency, is a fairly qualified governing body with all but unlimited powers in relation to the meeting of this most devastating epidemic—and we are more than sorry, we are indignant, at learning that Government and Parliament do not think it worth while to devote two or three weeks to the framing and passing into law of such a measure as the case seems to require.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

LAST Saturday the members of the Derby Government ate their whitebait dinner at Greenwich; to-morrow the Prorogation Speech will be settled at a Privy Council; and the Session will, it is announced, close on Friday. It began with the cattle plague, when the country squires compelled Earl Russell's Government to suspend all other business, in order that their interests might be attended to, and a general rate levied to meet the calamity. It ends amid a terrible visitation of cholera in the East of London, but an urgent appeal made by such Conservative members as Mr. Henley to pass a short Bill imposing a penny rate upon the whole metropolis to relieve the destitute and plague-stricken inhabitants of that district, is put aside by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the irrelevant plea that it won't do to legislate in a panic. Surely it would have been no unreasonable sacrifice if Parliament had sat for a few days longer thoroughly to discuss measures adequate to such a grave emergency. There would still have been ample time for grouse-shooting.

Mr. Gladstone's Compulsory Church-rates Abolition Bill was discussed for the last time on Wednesday, in a House tolerably full for that late period of the Session. Having already twice attempted to prevent the second reading of the Bill, to which the Government had assented, the Tories did not again resume their obstructive tactics. Unable now to talk the Bill out, they took occasion to assail and ridicule its provisions; and in this crusade members of the Government, such as Lord John Manners, Mr. Hunt, and the Solicitor-General, were even more zealous than their independent supporters, Mr. Henley, Mr. Newdegate, and Mr. Selwyn. It was denounced as worse than simple abolition, as throw-

ing all the power into the hands of extreme members of the Church, and as denationalising the Church. The Bill was very feebly supported. Mr. Goldney was the only Conservative who spoke gratefully of Mr. Gladstone's attempt, and he suggested that the fabric of the Church should be repaired at the expense of the surplus funds of the Ecclesiastical Commission. Mr. Arthur Peel supported the Bill as a step to abolition, and Mr. T. Chambers predicted signal failure from the attempt to amalgamate two opposite principles. It is to be regretted that no one rose to expose the utterly false statement that Church-rates are quietly levied in ninety per cent. of the parishes of England, though it has been proved that the impost has ceased to be exacted in more than one-half of them. Mr. Holden, the member for Knaresborough, produced some impression by declaring that the Wesleyan body were increasingly hostile to Church-rates, and that the angry contests to which they had given rise had driven many members of the Church into their communion. Sir William Bovill explained at length the provisions of his own Bill—which we may hereafter take occasion to examine—and said that it had been accepted by the Bench of Bishops. It is evident that if Lord Derby's Government should be disposed to take the question in hand next Session—which we greatly doubt—the Solicitor-General's Bill will be the basis of their measure.

About four o'clock Mr. Gladstone rose to close the discussion. He justly complained of the hostile tone of members of the Government against a Bill which they were not going to oppose seriously, sarcastically congratulated the Solicitor-General on his discovery of a new compromise, and praised the faithful adhesion of the abolitionists to his scheme in such terms as the *Guardian*—which has had the impudence to throw the blame of failure upon them—may ponder with advantage. He made a hit against Lord John Manners by quoting his remark that he less feared the scheme of the Liberation Society than such a compromise as was now before the House. Mr. Gladstone was cheerful in manner and adroit in argument, though the debate had gone against him. As soon as he sat down, the members of the Treasury Bench, followed by Mr. Beresford Hope and a few other members, walked out of the House, followed by the derisive laughter of the Opposition. The question was then put, and no opposition being offered, Mr. Gladstone's Bill was read a second time amid Opposition cheers, on the understanding that it is not to be proceeded with further. The three other Church-rate measures were then withdrawn—Mr. Harcastle announcing that he should feel at liberty to introduce his Bill again in a future Session. We trust he will then find the leader of the Opposition, who will probably refrain from reviving his compromise scheme, among his hearty supporters.

We are glad that the Bill for further suspending the Habeas Corpus Act was not passed without a further debate on Irish grievances. In the Commons, Mr. Maguire proposed as an amendment a series of resolutions, the drift of which was to recommend a liberal and remedial policy instead of repressive measures. Though perfectly just in principle, the resolutions do not meet the emergency; though Mr. Osborne, in a very able speech, gave some weighty reasons for withholding such exceptional powers from an Administration in which the Irish people had no confidence. Mr. Maguire was supported by as many as thirty-one members, but was of course outvoted. In the Upper House the Bill elicited an important speech from the late Lord-Lieutenant, who, with his full knowledge of the circumstances, stated that since the year 1798 there had not existed so dangerous a condition of the minds of people in Ireland as in the past year, and that many of the farming and intelligent classes would have joined the Fenian movement if a rebellion had broken out. Lord Kimberley declared that the sudden release of the Fenian prisoners without guarantees would be dangerous to the public peace. But he also expressed his belief that the tenure of land was "a most urgent question for the consideration of Parliament." "I hold," he added, in warning language, "that this country is responsible in this matter, and bound to see that the present state of things be not perpetuated in Ireland; and that, while employing the great military power which we possess for the purpose of suppressing rebellion and preventing conspiracies, we must at the same time seek out and remove as far as we are able the causes of these things. Unless this course be followed, and remedial measures be adopted, they will be, I am convinced, forced upon the attention of Parliament." The Tory Government have yet to face a serious Irish crisis, in which they will have either to sacrifice their traditional policy or retire from office.

At the Mansion House dinner, and once again in the House of Commons, Sir John Pakington has been deploring the bad condition of the navy, and urging the need for increased expenditure. The First Lord, in reply to Mr. Graves, declared, on Saturday, that there could hardly be said to be such a thing as a reserve fleet, the Admiralty having great difficulty in finding relief for the ships that return from foreign service. It is incredible.

No doubt large sums are spent annually in repairing ships at nearly as great a cost as they can be newly constructed, in buying up stores of timber, and in such schemes as paving the Portsmouth dockyard with wrought-iron plates instead of granite. But the Duke of Somerset is said to have been a good administrator at the Admiralty, and during the seven years of his career as First Lord about seventy millions sterling have been at his disposal for reconstructing our navy and making it efficient. The *Times* is highly indignant at the shameful mismanagement of the navy, as indicated by Sir John Pakington's statement, and summons the House of Commons to exercise an interference more powerful, direct, and stringent than it has ever hitherto attempted, or this gigantic national evil will never be overthrown. We predict that the House of Commons will do no such thing, but, instead of insisting on searching retrenchment, will yield to the new First Lord's demand for a new outburst of expenditure. Our dockyards are a gigantic vested interest, which has laughed at the feeble economic maxims of successive Administrations, and will continue to do so. Nothing but great outdoor pressure will abate this shameful scandal.

The Bill for amending the Extradition Treaty with France has been keenly discussed in the House of Commons, and the country is greatly indebted to Mr. McCullagh Torrens, Mr. Mill, and Sir F. Goldsmid, for their jealous watchfulness over our right of asylum. The chief provision of the measure is to enable English magistrates to receive the depositions taken before a French court without the necessity of oral proof of their legality; the object of the critics referred to being to prevent political refugees from being proceeded against by a constructive interpretation of the clauses of the new treaty. Lord Stanley has wisely consented to limit the operation of the Act to one year, so that the whole question involved may be thoroughly examined next Session. On this understanding the Bill was allowed to pass.

ON THE WALLS.

To appear on the walls of their town is no longer the duty of all who are brave and wise and strong in any time of crisis or danger; but looked at within or without, walls are still a species of common ground for a number of arts, all of some importance or use to mankind. The proceedings of paper-hangers or of artists in water and in oil, and the skill of gardeners and bill-stickers, all find their field of display on the walls. Something is to be said, too, though perhaps the more modestly the better, for the capability of walls in a picturesque point of view, if only of the facility with which they may lose every trace of their original form by falling into ruin, or be concealed from view altogether by virginia-creeper or ivy. For our own part, at least, to say this much is nothing but a bare act of reparation—tardy it may be, yet we hope not too late.

A very great liking for green hedges has, we believe, led us to do some injustice to walls. The confession, now we do make it, is not due to any sudden access of impartiality. It is only because we are forced to be off with the old love that we care to be on with the new. When hawthorn and blackthorn, elderberry and maple and brier, are so rapidly being swallowed up by high farming, it is time to come to as friendly an understanding as possible with brick and mortar, and dry stone dykes, and even with hurdles. One must draw the line somewhere, and at present we draw it at hurdles. A hurdle bears some resemblance to a gate or a style, and is generally more or less rustic in its make and design. But we object to wire fencing. Fences made in any way of iron may be pardonable in gardens and parks, but seem terribly out of place between meadows and corn-fields. Their provokingly straight lines, and their tedious repetition of angle after angle exactly equal to other angles, are out of all harmony with the ever-varied, ever-moving life and gracefulness of the grasses and the wheat. The softening and magical touch of the lichen is laid on them in vain. They afford no footing for mosses and ferns, even in that wonderful South Devonshire land, where buds and shoots of one kind or another rush eagerly out of every crack or crevice in the walls. These are not new walls, however, or too regular or smooth. We are in daily fear lest a staring new wall or a smart iron railing should replace a certain familiar piece of boundary-line or barrier which we see at this moment, and which indeed no one can help seeing who looks out at our window. This is no hedge, but about a furlong's length of battered and bent wooden paling. To say that it must have been built of second-hand planks would be to employ an inappropriate adjective. Fifth-hand, or fiftieth, might perhaps be suitable. There is not a square inch of it but must have had curious, or at least diversified,

adventures in horizontal and slanting situations before being set up on end where it is. The exception is in slips of virgin deal, or of wood only one or two degrees superannuated, which are patched in here and there like a piece of very new cloth on a very old garment. The custodian of the place makes his rounds regularly after every high wind to fill up gaps and reduce dislocations, and the marked, reluctant thriftiness with which he introduces the least scrap of new material, is as great a satisfaction to us as it is no doubt a praiseworthy economy in him. He does not perhaps take all the credit he might for the endless gradations of greys and browns which he mercifully spares to us, or the wonderful changes of hue which the nail-pierced, weather-beaten surface undergoes after every shower of rain or in frosty weather, or consider at all carefully what glories of intense light and transfiguring sunset colour may be seen revealed through its wide and many interstices as you climb the long hill whose ridge it divides and look through its strange, ragged lattice on an ocean of sky.

But we must come back to "this loam, and this rough-cast, and this stone," or else be amenable to the reproach which Snug casts at Bottom, "You can never bring in a wall!" Walls are historic,—nay, they are pre-historic. Were there in all probability walled towns before Noah's time? Were not some of the most inspiring actions of English and Roman, as well as of Grecian history, performed there? True, walls are ceasing now to be in any way the bulwarks of a nation, and even the wooden walls of Old England are being exchanged for iron ones. Yet, where armies now come by railway to meet each other, and where the roar of artillery runs along six miles of country at once, time was when the fate of a commonwealth hung upon the prowess of the brave men on her walls, and seemed to ebb and flow as her standard still waved there, or was seized and struck down by the foe.

The only sense in which, in this country, at least, citizens now walk or stand on their walls, is by throwing them into a pleasure-promenade, as at Chester or York, or by burying them under later streets and roads, to be disinterred as an archaeological discovery when a drain or a railway-tunnel has to be dug. In the nineteenth century, the shock of battle on the walls is given and received by conflicting election bills and the "posters" of competing tradesmen or exhibitors. How many of these extraordinary productions are ever read through? As a single combat attracts greater sympathy and interest than a general engagement, so a very ordinary placard, when you come upon it in some quiet country solitude, side by side with the horseshoe nailed to a barn-door, for instance, will sometimes acquire quite a new meaning and value. It is like an unexpected, not altogether ungrateful, link, reuniting you with the great world of civilisation; or it helps to remind you agreeably how very far away you are from that world, and from the accustomed haunts of the billsticker, and your own round of daily worry and toil. Even a foolish piece of slang may pass muster in such circumstances. We remember once having a good laugh all to ourselves (albeit, the remark just then was a very personal one) on seeing, "How's your poor feet?" chalked on a rough and projecting slate in the roadside wall between Festiniog and Beddgelert, where we had seen no human creature for miles.

We are not learned in stone-fruit. Peaches and nectarines are, we suppose, to be grown for the future chiefly in pots or in orchard-houses. But who does not love to see and smell on the walls of his own or any other house roses and woodbine and jessamine? What setting to a bedroom window-frame is to be chosen rather than the clustering boughs of a pear-tree, old, but with life and sap in it yet, and with blossoms snowy and sweet, and later, great jargonelles as sweet, hanging every day jucier and heavier on the walls, till you gather them from pure pity, for fear they should tumble down and be hurt?

Outside, you are strongly tempted to give up your walls (especially if they have a good southern exposure), to utility and to well-pruned fruit trees. Inside, they are either part of the rightful domain of the beautiful, or you punish everyone who enters your house, as well as yourself, by the painfully ugly patterns of your wall-papers, and by ugly pictures which are more inexcusable still. Photography will never supersede the really high and noble art which infuses into portraits the artist's sympathetic conception of his subject as a whole, and does not stop short at a mechanical and bare copy of some one momentary expression. But photography at all events relegates to the album on the table, what

used to be considered a necessary article of furniture on the walls. The heads of the family do not now so often as formerly feel it indispensable to be hung in awful caricature over their own sideboard or sofa, looking miserable and absurd, and occupying space which some choice bit of landscape might fill. In the lately-published book called "A Century of Painters," by the Messrs. Redgrave, an amusing story is told of one of the orders for portraits received by Hoppner, the rival of Lawrence. He was waited upon at his house in Charles-street by a gentleman and lady, with five sons and two daughters, and was asked what he would charge for "painting the whole lot of us: prompt payment for discount." The painter naturally enough replied that something would depend on dimensions, style, composition, and so on. "Oh that is all settled," was the rejoinder, "we are all to be touched off in one piece as large as life, all seated on our lawn at Olapham, and all singing God save the King." The ambition of the present day is for the most part ore temperate and more rational. Even the important members of the household consider themselves sufficiently represented by their *carte*, or perhaps two or three taken in different positions. It is beginning to be understood that to have no pictures whatever on your walls is better than putting up bad ones, and that a very few really excellent engravings from great works of art, whether in a portfolio, or plainly and suitably framed, are infinitely to be preferred to a crowd of gilded monstrosities or platitudes in crayons or in oil.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

JAMAICA.

On Thursday Lord RODNEY, referring to the late troubles in Jamaica, inquired whether the Government entertained the same opinion upon the subject as their predecessors, and what steps had been taken in reference to that island.

Lord CARNARVON, in reply, pointed out the difficulties connected with the question. It was admitted, he said, that vigorous measures were justifiable and necessary for the repression of the disorders that took place, but it must also be admitted that some cases of cruelty, oppression, and injustice had occurred. With respect to the military officers against whom charges had been made, the Commissioners had mentioned three whose conduct they considered should undergo further investigation. Provost-Marshal Ramsay was now on trial in Jamaica for murder, and Ensign Oullen and Dr. Morris would be tried by court-martial composed of officers who were unconnected with the late proceedings in Jamaica. Sir J. Grant, the Governor, had been instructed by the late Government to ascertain whether there were any civilians whose conduct demanded further inquiry, and the present Government had also directed his attention to that point. Sir J. Grant had also been instructed to examine the cases of those persons who had been sentenced to heavy punishments for participation in the riots, with a view to ascertain whether a mitigation might not be prudently made. Of Governor Eyre's conduct Lord Carnarvon remarked that while he had displayed the vigour and promptitude in the repression of the rebellion with which it was his duty to act, yet he had been wanting in sound judgment, and had, under the influence of panic, permitted the unnecessary prolongation of martial law, which had been the cause of most of the mischief that subsequently occurred. At the same time, it would be preposterous to hold that Mr. Eyre had been guilty of murder in the case of Gordon (although the execution upon the evidence adduced was most indefensible), as he acted *bonâ fide*, and his want of judgment and discretion had entailed upon him his recall, which was in itself a very heavy penalty.

Earl RUSSELL only wished to say on behalf of the late Government, that they all thought the report of the Commissioners not only a very able one, but that it judged impartially between the conduct of Governor Eyre and all other persons who came under their notice. The report praised Governor Eyre for his promptitude and extreme readiness in putting down an incipient insurrection, and he (the noble earl) saw no ground for indicting Governor Eyre for murder, although at the same time he deplored the undue severity he had exercised.

In reply to Lord Houghton, Lord CARNARVON said he could not give any decided answer about compensation to the suffering families. He doubted whether a grant could be obtained from the Consolidated Fund for such a purpose, and the colonial revenues were not sufficiently prosperous to expect any contribution from them.

The conversation then ceased, and, the orders of the day having been gone through, the House adjourned at twenty minutes to seven o'clock.

HYDE PARK.

On Friday, Earl RUSSELL drew attention to the state of Hyde Park. Without touching the question of the right to hold meetings in the park, he questioned the prudence of the Home Secretary's arrangement with Mr. Beales to withdraw the police and to leave

the preservation of public order to that gentleman and the Reform League. The intention of all parties to that arrangement he believed to have been the restoration of peace in Hyde Park, but the result of withdrawing the civil force had been to confer complete immunity upon the roughs of London, who had taken possession of the park to the annoyance and injury of the respectable population of London.

Lord DERBY protested against the unexpected attack upon Mr. Walpole, who, he showed, had not made any such arrangement with Mr. Beales as Lord Russell had imputed, but had, on the contrary, declared that although if there were no disturbance there would be no demonstration of force, yet in any case he should provide a reserve to meet any emergency that might arise. Lord Derby then remarked that the dangers of the park at night were not entirely of recent origin, although the Reform demonstrations might have encouraged disorderly persons to more than usual violence. The divided management of the park caused difficulty in provided for better lighting and watching, but the subject was under serious consideration.

Lord LYVEDEN complained of the manner in which for several days the flower-beds and trees in the park had been allowed to be destroyed, but eulogised (as Lord Russell and Lord Derby had done) the coolness and forbearance of the police in withstanding the attacks which were made upon them.

IRISH RAILWAYS.

Upon the second reading of the Railways (Ireland) Temporary Advances Bill, which Lord KIMBERLEY and Lord BELMORE supported as an exceptional measure, justifiable by the peculiar circumstances of the time, Lord LYVEDEN objected to a distinction being drawn between English and Irish railways. After a brief discussion, however, the bill was read a second time.

In answer to Earl Fortescue, the Earl of LONGFORD said that steps had been taken by the War Office to ensure more perfect sanitary arrangements in the army.

The Industrial Schools Bill and the Reformatory Schools Bill were read a second time.

The House adjourned at seven o'clock.

On Monday the Royal assent was given by commission to a number of bills.

The Public Health Bill was read a second time after a brief discussion, in the course of which Lord SHAPTESBURY urged the necessity of more stringent powers in respect of the water supply, and Lord CARNARVON announced that in consequence of the prevalence of cholera an Order in Council would immediately be issued, requiring all ships coming under the operation of the Passenger Act to carry a surgeon, whatever the number of passengers.

Several bills were advanced in their various stages. Amongst them was the Habeas Corpus (Ireland) Suspension Continuance Bill, the second reading of which was moved by the Earl of DERBY, the Earl of KIMBERLEY taking occasion to state that if he had continued in office he should have advised its renewal. After speaking of the temperate manner in which the United States' representative in Dublin had interposed on behalf of American citizens who were arrested under the Suspension Act, and the support which the Government had received from the gentry of Ireland, Lord Kimberley expressed his conviction that to insure the contentment of that country a settlement of the land tenure question must be effected, and the Irish Church question must be dealt with. Lord CLANRICARDE objected to a settlement of the landlord and tenant question upon the basis proposed by the late Government, which would have really effected a redistribution of the land in Ireland.

The other orders were disposed of, and their Lordships adjourned at five minutes past seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

COMPULSORY CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.

At the day sitting of the House on Wednesday, the adjourned debate on the second reading of Mr. Gladstone's bill was resumed by

Mr. HENLEY, who objected chiefly to applying to a voluntary subscription machinery intended for the levying of a compulsory rate, and argued that by thus depriving her of full freedom of action the Church would be placed by the bill in a worse position than if the rate were unconditionally abolished. He showed in a careful calculation the unequal manner in which the bill would work in agricultural parishes, urged strongly the mischief of dividing parishes into two hostile camps, and intimated his intention of supporting Mr. Neate's proposition to accompany the abolition with a permanent provision for the maintenance of the fabric.

Mr. ARTHUR PEEL said that the country owed a debt of gratitude to the right hon. member for South Lancashire for bringing in a measure which held out a practical prospect of settling that question, whether it was called a compromise or not.

The sting of the whole controversy on that subject no doubt was a compulsory money payment, and he would be well content to leave the maintenance of the fabric of the Church to voluntary efforts, without any attempt to bolster it up by legislation. If, as was alleged, there were thousands of parishes still willing to pay Church-rates without dispute, there was no reason why, after the passing of the bill, they should not continue to do so. As to the outlying parishes, if the arm of the Church was not long enough, or her charity not strong enough to reach and meet the case of those parishes, then he much misunderstood the extent of her strength and her charity. He wished to throw down every barrier between the Established Church and the

Dissenters; or, as perhaps he should call them, Nonconforming Churchmen, and if the Nonconformists were willing to accept that bill it was not for him as a Churchman to object to it. Seeing in that measure an earnest symptom of that to which he believed they must soon come, and the sooner the better—namely, the total, unconditional, and untrammelled abolition of Church-rates—he should cordially vote for its second reading. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. HUNT opposed the bill, pointing out that it made no provision for the fabrics, that it would be impossible for the churchwardens, not knowing beforehand how many people would pay the rate, to make any assessment, and that it would impair the independence of the clergy; and objecting to the broad line of demarcation which would be drawn in each parish.

Another provision in the bill would give great encouragement to the views of many who advocated the separation of the Church from the State. It was proposed that there should be both a secular and an ecclesiastical churchwarden. That was a sort of Japanese institution. In Japan there were two Emperors, the Tycoon and the Mikado, one of whom had charge of ecclesiastical and the other of temporal matters. (A laugh.) That principle had never been recognised in the parochial system of this country; and, independently of the inconvenience it would occasion in working the business of the parish, he must say it was the first step he had seen proposed by any one holding a position like that of the right hon. gentleman opposite towards the separation of Church and State. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GOLDNEY wished to state to the House the light in which he regarded the bill brought in by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The second reading of a bill for the total abolition of Church-rates having been carried by a considerable majority of that House, the right hon. gentleman stepped in and said it was not fair or expedient that the impost should be totally abolished; that it should still be lawful for parishes to levy the rate, but that, instead of being made payable by compulsory legal process, it should be left to moral influence, while, on the other hand, those who did not choose to pay must allow those who did pay to control the application of the rate. Now, he could not see how, under such an arrangement as that, Churchmen could say they would be worse off than if the other bill for the total abolition of Church-rates were passed. The sum spent of late years for the repair of the fabrics of the Church was only about 60,000*l.* per annum, and of that amount about 37,000*l.* was derived from trust funds. The question then under discussion, therefore, involved a sum of only some 23,000*l.* or 25,000*l.* a-year. After agreeing to the second reading of that bill, there was nothing to prevent the proposal of a clause in committee by which, in the case of parishes in which, from local causes or other circumstances, the attempt to raise a sufficient fund by a voluntary rate for the repair of the fabric of the Church had been made, but without success, the sum requisite for that purpose might be obtained from the funds in the hands of Ecclesiastical Commissioners, or from some other funds applicable to Church purposes. Some clause of that kind would meet the object of the hon. member for Oxford.

Mr. T. CHAMBERS said that everyone that day seemed to have come round to his opinion that the bill was no compromise. The mischiefs which he felt confident would result from its operation in every parish in England would be so great that those clauses to which he objected would have to be repealed within a very short time.

He was prepared to adopt the voluntary principle frankly, and he had no doubt that if Parliament were to sanction it a sum 10 per cent. greater than was now levied by the compulsory system would be raised through its instrumentality, while all the dissension and heartburnings which must result from the action of what he must term the impossible compromise of the measure of the right hon. gentleman would be avoided. Church-rates were, he might add, paid either to support a public institution or as an equivalent of a certain amount of accommodation received by the person who paid them. They were, indeed, levied on both those principles where Dissent was unknown, but the payment must now be ranged under one or the other of the two heads which he had just mentioned. If, then the system of compulsory Church-rates was abolished, it was clear that the first of those two principles must be abandoned. As to the second, he would only say that it was, in his opinion, a very reasonable principle that a man should be called upon to pay for the accommodation which he received, nor did he agree with those who maintained the opinion that the doctrines taught by our clergy would be influenced by the list of their subscribers. That was a slander upon them, and if it were true they would be unworthy to be the ministers of any religion. Now, if the voluntary principle were established, a man would pay according to his means and according to the necessities of his church, which was a very fair thing to do.

Lord J. MANNERS argued in favour of the existing system of Church-rates, and exhorted Mr. Gladstone to withdraw from the question and leave the friends of the Church to deal face to face with the abolitionists. This particular bill had been unanimously condemned by Churchmen, and, among other objections to it, he urged that it would deprive the poor of their present right to the services of the Church, and would invalidate the present relations between the Church and the State.

Years ago, no doubt, when the subject of Church-rates was first brought before the House, there was a great deal of litigation; but now, thanks to the action of the Liberation Society, and the steps taken to resist its efforts, and owing, still more, to the decisions pronounced by that eminent Judge, Dr. Lushington, the law of Church-rates had become one of the best understood in the State, and litigation was proportionately diminished. For his own part, he ventured to say that if, after a very short space of time, the litigation to which the right hon. gentleman referred were continued, it would be owing to the exertions of the Liberation Society, to whom this bill proposed to give so unnecessary a triumph. The right hon. gentleman seemed to

assume that the people of England could not assemble to settle whether a 1*d.* or 2*d.* or 3*d.* in the pound should be raised for the maintenance of the fabric of the Church without ill-feeling, but that he felt assured must be regarded as a libel on the community at large. (Hear, hear.) He would in the next place shortly advert to the character of the peace which was proposed. At the present moment Church-rates were levied in some 8,000 or 9,000 out of the 10,000 parishes of England without any vexation whatever, but how would the case be when the present bill came into operation, and when every parish would be divided into two hostile camps? For his own part, he could conceive no measure more calculated to lead to local jealousy and ill feeling than the right hon. gentleman's bill.

He never remembered so universal a feeling of condemnation expressed on any of the Church-rate bills hitherto brought forward, as had been expressed out of the House on the bill now before them.

Sir G. GREY explained that he had assented to the principle of the bill because it tempered the harshness of unconditional abolition by continuing to those who were willing to pay the power of collecting a rate, and he expressed a strong conviction that large sums would still be levied under the old machinery. He defended generally the details of the bill, though he admitted that in committee they might be susceptible of amendment.

It seemed that he was understood by the noble lord to have given his assent to the proposal that the money for the repair of the fabrics of the Church should be taken out of the funds at the disposal of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. He gave no opinion upon that point, though he admitted it was competent for the House to adopt, in committee on the bill, a provision, in the spirit of the amendment of the hon. member for Oxford, that a certain sum should be appropriated out of the revenues of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for the maintenance of the fabrics of the Church. Indeed, if no legal provision were made for the repair of the fabrics, the necessary sum could come out of no other funds. In Ireland for many years the course had been taken of making a certain charge on the Ecclesiastical Commission for the repairs of the fabrics.

Mr. SELWYN, after pointing out various hardships which would arise in the working of the bill, repudiated it altogether as a compromise, and urged Mr. Gladstone to withdraw it, as it was universally condemned by the friends of the Church, whom he professed to wish to conciliate.

Mr. HOLDEN, referring to the state of feeling among the Wesleyan Methodists in relation to this subject, observed that they largely sympathised with the opposition to Church-rates. The founder of that body, and the most eminent of its first ministers, belonged to the Church of England, and remained so during their lives. Some of them were even bigoted in favour of the connection between Church and State, but as the body grew more numerous and felt the pressure of their own religious institutions, they became sensible of the burden of being obliged to support the Establishment in the shape of Church-rates. They would not have objected to the income derived from fixed sources—such as tithe—being continued to the Church; but regarding Church-rates as a voluntary impost which the majority of the parishioners might grant or refuse, they thought they were perfectly justified in availing themselves of the state of the law to oppose Church-rates, contributing as they did so largely for the support of their own religious institutions. His opinion was, that many of those who now joined that body were driven from the Church by the strife arising out of contests about Church-rates. The Wesleyans raised annually a sum of 2,074,000*l.* for the maintenance of their own religious institutions, and he thought they and Nonconformists generally should be relieved from contributing to support a Church which possessed so much fixed and immovable wealth.

Mr. NEWDEGATE said that the bill would give encouragement to the minority in a parish representing extreme opinions to enforce them on the whole body of the parishioners. He denied that the Wesleyans as a body were hostile to Church-rates, and mentioned an instance within his own knowledge where an opposition having been got up, the Wesleyan minister and the chief members of his congregation recorded their votes in favour of the rate, and carried it. This bill struck at the national character of the Church of England, and therefore he should oppose it.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL (Sir W. Bovill) said he believed those who studied the bill he had introduced free from the influence of the Liberation Society would find that it was entitled to the serious consideration of those who wished a settlement of the question. In the large towns it might be said they had already practically abolished Church-rates; but, on the other hand, there was a vast body of the rural population—ninety per cent. of these parishes willing to pay and contributing readily and cheerfully for the maintenance of their churches. It, therefore, seemed to him that a measure proposed as a real compromise must accommodate itself to both of these parties. He had endeavoured to frame a measure which should be of general application, and should adapt itself to the varying circumstances of different places.

It seemed to him, therefore, that just as each parish should decide whether or not it would have a Church-rate, according to the preponderance of one side or another, so each individual should have the right to say whether or not he would contribute to the maintenance of the Church; and though many clauses in his bill, being hastily drawn up, might, no doubt, be improved, the principle of the measure was that every person who desired not to pay the rate might absolutely relieve himself from the obligation by simply giving notice to that effect. He did not propose to require any person to declare that he conscientiously objected to the payment of the rate, and it would be just as competent for a

member of the Church of England as for a Dissenter to give the notice of objection. He believed, indeed, that the great body of Dissenters, so far from disliking to avow their principles, were proud of their Nonconformity; but, as the organ of the Liberation Society had raised a cry that Dissenters would not be "ticketed," he had thought it right to avoid that difficulty. In attempting a compromise, it was obvious that not only must the relief of Dissenters be considered, but the measure must be of such a character as to be acceptable to the Church. Now, as regarded Dissenters, if a notice that they did not desire to contribute to the rate would entirely relieve them from the liability, they surely ought to be satisfied, for upon no just principle could the parishes willing to raise rates—amounting to 30 per cent.—be overruled by the 10 per cent. which took a different view. His plan accordingly—and he hoped it would be considered by the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Gladstone), if he gave further attention to the subject during the recess—enabled persons who desired to do so to continue the payment of rates, and as any settlement of this question must be submitted to the other House, he might remark that he had reason to believe that his bill would meet with the concurrence of the bench of bishops, whereas he understood the measure of the right hon. gentleman would not receive their support. (Hear.) Now, a bill which relieved Dissenters, and at the same time obtained the approval of those most interested in the Church, plainly presented the elements of a compromise, whereas, the present measure, though introduced by the right hon. gentleman as a compromise, and though still persistently described as such, was an absolute concession to the Dissenters without a single redeeming feature in favour of the Church. A bill framed on such a principle was not likely ever to pass. (Hear, hear.) Moreover, instead of getting rid of strife and illfeeling, the bill would increase it threefold. It would actually allow three Church-rates to be made instead of one; for it did not do away with the old rate, but simply provided that it should not be recoverable at law. A vestry, therefore, might still meet to decide whether such a rate should be made or not, and as where Churchmen had a majority they would naturally prefer a rate at common law, leaving persons to refuse to pay if they thought fit, the same discussions as hitherto would naturally take place. Then by the 4th clause the vestry was at liberty to assess a voluntary rate, which would be rate No. 2, and would be attended by the same discussions and heartburnings; and, last of all, by the 5th clause the inhabitant householders and occupiers of land could make a voluntary rate. Thus there would be three opportunities for strife and dispute, and when the rate was made those who had assented to it would not be liable to pay it. A scheme more impracticable could not be conceived. But the difficulty did not cease there, for there would be two sets of churchwardens, with no definition of their respective functions, except that one set was to be for secular purposes and the other for ecclesiastical, an arrangement which would certainly lead to great confusion. Then under clause 8 there would be endless disputes as to what parishioners were entitled to seats in the church. It was evidently impossible that the bill could pass in the present shape. He should be happy to assist in any measure that might be acceptable to both sides, but it was hopeless to expect anything like a compromise with those who were influenced by the views of the Liberation Society. As to the recovery of the rate, the hon. member for Northampton (Mr. Gilpin) had referred on previous occasions to cases where legal proceedings had been taken for the recovery of sums like 3d. or 6d., but if this was an objection to Church-rates being recoverable by law, the same argument would apply to all other duties or imposts, and it must be remembered that these cases had been purposely selected for litigation by the opponents of the rate. He thought County Court judges might have power, if his proposal were adopted, to determine the legal liability of those who had given no notice of objection, and when persons had voluntarily incurred the liability, there was no reason why they should not be made to pay. There was a considerable difference between a voluntary rate and the plan he suggested, for in the former case many persons who now paid the rate cheerfully would put off the collector time after time, and would, at last, perhaps, decline to pay at all, whereas under his scheme the rate would be a legal charge on all who had not sent notice of objection. This would be a great boon to the Church, and would preserve the connection of Church and State unimpaired. In conclusion, he would urge that a measure of compromise ought to make concessions to both sides, and any measure of this character he would heartily support; but the bill of the right hon. gentleman, with its three rates, two sets of churchwardens, and two sets of inhabitants, did not answer to this description, and he did not intend, therefore, to vote upon it. (Cheers.)

Mr. Hadfield and Mr. Gladstone rose together; but the latter gave way, and Mr. HADFIELD proceeded to say that in his opinion the bill of his hon. friend the member for Bury St. Edmunds was a better bill than that of the right hon. member for South Lancashire.

He (Mr. Hadfield) was accused as a Nonconformist of not wishing to see Church-rates abolished, feeling that they made so good a grievance; but he did wish to part with them, not, however, on the terms offered by the Solicitor-General. (Hear, hear.) If the hon. and learned gentleman would provide that those only who were willing to pay should give notice, he (Mr. Hadfield) believed that his bill would pass. (Hear, hear.) But it was in fact and virtually a bishops' bill. (Hear, hear.) The bishops forsooth would not have the bill of the member for Bury St. Edmunds, but they would have that of the Solicitor-General. What! Were they, the Commons of England, to submit to the dictation of the bishops? (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") The bill of the hon. member for Bury St. Edmunds would produce more money for the Church than was raised at present; but it was so sweet to the Church of England to squeeze a little money from Nonconformists that the bishops would not part with the power. (Hear, hear.) They (the Nonconformists) were told they were an inferior class, and that it was predominance, not money, which the Church demanded. He knew it was not the paltry 300,000, a year that stood in the way. Why, then, permit of this incubus rating every session and retarding their proceedings, when the same sum for any other purpose would be voted in a single night. He could tell the hon. member for Buckingham that his words would not speedily be forgotten. He could tell him that Nonconformists acknowledged no superiority in members of

the Church of England. They (the Nonconformists) were the best friends of the throne, and they claimed her Majesty's protection, so that they might not stand before the world as serfs, but as equals in every respect of members of the Church of England. (Loud cheers.)

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL explained that he framed his bill without any communication with a single bishop or archdeacon, but that several dignitaries of the Church had since expressed approval of it.

Mr. GLADSTONE said his noble friend the First Commissioner of Works had alluded to an arrangement made between the Government and gentlemen sitting on that bench, of the effect of which he appeared to be in doubt. Now, as the arrangements made between the representatives of different parties with regard to the proceedings of that House were essentially of a public character, and as on a former occasion, he, to some extent, misconstrued the meaning of the arrangement, he would state as accurately as he could what it was. He received an intimation through the regular official channel that no objection would be made by the Government to the second reading of his bill, provided it were understood that he did not intend to carry it beyond that stage, and he certainly did not expect that the Secretary of the Treasury and the Solicitor-General would make detailed speeches in opposition to the measure, nor that his noble friend opposite, being a member of the Cabinet, would condemn it as more injurious to the Church than a bill of simple abolition. He was at a loss to understand the position of members of the Government in expressing such sentiments, and yet feeling themselves restrained from giving their votes against the bill, and if this were the effect of arrangements thus brought about, he hoped such understandings would in future be more thoroughly considered and more strictly observed. (Hear, hear.)

His noble friend had described the bill as merely a reproduction of a project proposed by the hon. member for Birmingham, and he could not but be amused when the name of that hon. member, the recognised and established public bugbear of the country—(laughter)—who, very much against his own will, had done such excellent service to the party opposite upon other and more important matters during the present session, was dragged in even upon this humble bill for getting rid of Church-rates, in order to discredit it. (A laugh.) His noble friend might be better acquainted with the proceedings and proposals of the hon. member for Birmingham than he was, but he was not aware that this proposal had ever been made by the member for Birmingham. (A cry of "Oh!") He never heard him make a proposal under which persons not contributing to the Church-rate were to be disqualified from holding the office of churchwarden, or from taking any part in the disposal of Church funds. Listening carefully to the debates, he had heard many objections taken to the bill, some of which, he must say, arose from not having read it. The Solicitor-General, for instance, had argued that the rate proposed by the 4th clause and that proposed by clause 5 might be raised in the same place, whereas the one provided for parishes, and the other for ecclesiastical districts not being parishes. It was naturally to the right hon. member for Oxfordshire that he turned for solid objections to the measure. As to the diversion of the offertory from the poor, the offertory moneys were wholly unaffected by the bill, and with regard to what the right hon. gentleman termed the qualified excommunication of a portion of the parishioners, he saw no connection between excommunication and the non-appropriation of seats; besides which, the proviso on this point was not of the essence of the bill. The right hon. gentleman had also argued that farmers would be liable to a disproportionate quota of the rate. No doubt the income of a farmer would be more heavily taxed than that of a man residing in a house without land, but this, as well as other objections, applied equally to the scheme of the Solicitor-General, the sole virtue of which was that it involved the element of compulsion towards persons supposed to be willing to pay. This it was which induced the hon. and learned gentleman to prefer his own bill, and to declare, forsooth, that the bishops were ready to accept it. (Hear, hear.) Under both measures a tenant who took a farm knowing that it was chargeable to Church-rates would be able to avoid that charge, but a settlement of this question surely counterbalanced that inconvenience. It was urged by the noble lord, as also by the hon. member for Cambridge University, that since he had failed to conciliate the opponents of total abolition he should withdraw the bill. It was others, however, whose objections might be more pliable, whom he expected to conciliate, and not the sterner stuff of which those two hon. members were made. (A laugh.) He had received ample encouragement to persevere, and he did not complain of the diversity of opinion which existed. No doubt the vast majority on his side of the House preferred simple abolition, and no doubt a very large number of the gentlemen opposite were not prepared to accede to any material change in the law. Those who had the charge of this measure stood between these two forces, but those who preferred simple abolition were willing to agree to the principle of the bill. It was said that no advantage was given by it to the Church, but he contended that the power of exclusive management of funds raised for the purposes of the Church was a very considerable boon, for simple abolition would give persons who did not contribute to the funds the right to control the application of them, though, no doubt, in practice, that right would seldom be exercised. (Hear, hear.) The House should remember the circumstances under which the bill was introduced. This question had been a subject of conflict as long as almost any of them could recollect, and as matters stood between abolition and the maintenance of the present system, it was likely to continue so for an equally long period. Surely this indefinite prolongation of the controversy was not to the advantage of the country, or to the credit of the House. (Hear, hear.) The Solicitor-General, whose attention had evidently only recently been turned to this subject, fancied that he had discovered a mine of sterling ore, which he was prepared to sell exceedingly cheap, but those who had been familiar with the question for the last thirty-five years were aware that the article he offered had been battered into every conceivable shape that the most

ductile metal could be made to assume. During the last fifteen years plan after plan of exemption had been brought forward in the hope of settling the question, but they had uniformly failed in their object. The hon. member for Warwickshire, on the other hand, had introduced a measure to saddle the payment of the Church-rates upon the land, but such a proposition had already been rejected by a very large majority of the House, and there was but little reason for supposing that the House had altered its determination upon that point. The principle of the measure he had himself introduced had been voted for over and over again by those now in favour of things remaining as they were, as well as by those who desired the total abolition of Church-rates, and upon that principle he wished to obtain the judgment of the House. It was evident from the language of the noble lord when he asked him to withdraw the bill, that he felt himself safe against proposals for the total abolition of Church-rates, but not against measures like the present, the principle of which had been approved by great numbers on either side of the question. Encouraged by many circumstances, and by none more than by that declaration of his noble friend, he looked forward with sanguine expectation to the vote which the House was about to give. (Cheers.)

At the conclusion of the right hon. gentleman's address, the Chief Commissioner of Works, the Solicitor-General, and the Secretary to the Treasury, rose from their seats and left the House, amid cries of "Oh, oh," and laughter.

Colonel TAYLOR explained the circumstances under which the agreement alluded to by Mr. Gladstone was made. He had stated to the official organ on the other side that the Government would not take a division against the second reading of the bill, but that they reserved to themselves the right of discussing the matter in the fullest possible manner, and they were not to be regarded as accepting the principle of the bill because they did not take a division against its second reading. That was the statement made by him, and accepted by the other side.

The bill was then read a second time without a division.

CHURCH-RATES ABOLITION BILL.

Mr. HARDCASTLE, in withdrawing the bill for the Abolition of Church-rates, said that he had not pressed his bill beyond a second reading, believing that no useful purpose would be gained by so doing, and being desirous in every way in his power to support the bill of the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Gladstone); that at the same time, in the altered circumstances of the case, he reserved to himself—speaking on behalf of those with whom he acted, as well as personally—the fullest liberty to introduce the same bill, or any other bill with the same object, in a future session of Parliament. The order was then discharged.

Mr. Newdegate's Church-rates Commutation Bill, and Mr. Bovill's Church-rates Amendment Bill, were also withdrawn.

The Consolidated Fund Appropriation Bill was read a third time and passed.

Several other orders were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at a quarter to six o'clock.

THE ABYSSINIAN CAPTIVES.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. Griffiths, Lord STANLEY said it was unfortunately true that Mr. Kassam and the other two gentlemen named were still detained by the King of Abyssinia. By the latest accounts he understood that they were not kept in confinement, although they were detained in the country and not allowed to leave it. It would appear that so far as was compatible with their detention the prisoners had personally been well treated. Mr. Flad had come over to this country, leaving his family behind. He (Lord Stanley) had seen Mr. Flad and another gentleman who was well acquainted with the country, and they had endeavoured to arrange for some inducement to be offered to the King of Abyssinia to procure the final release of the prisoners. Mr. Flad would return as soon as the climate allowed, but as the rainy season was about to set in he would not be able to start until the beginning of September.

THE METRICAL SYSTEM.

In reply to Mr. J. B. Smith, Lord STANLEY said he understood that a measure for the adoption of a metrical system of weights and measures was before the Congress of the United States, but he was not aware of its fate. Personally, he was in favour of the system, but he was afraid that it would be long before it was generally approved of in England. Until we had adopted it ourselves it was useless for the Government to call a Congress of foreign Powers with a view of adopting it as an international system.

THE HYDE PARK RIOTS.

Mr. MILL presented the petition adopted at the meeting in the Agricultural Hall, complaining of the exclusion of the public from Hyde Park, and praying the House to institute an inquiry into the conduct of the Chief Commissioner of Police, and of the police generally.

Colonel S. KNOX begged to ask the hon. gentleman whether a letter which appeared in that morning's paper from Mr. Beales was genuine; and if so, whether he could inform the House who the "popular leaders" mentioned in it were.

Mr. MILL: I am not in the least degree authorised to make any communication to the House on behalf of the Reform League, of which I am not even a member; and I beg to refer the hon. gentleman to those who are members, and particularly to Mr. Beales himself. (Cheers and laughter.)

CHURCH-RATES.

Mr. NEWDEGATE gave notice that, unless the Government itself did so, he would next session ask

leave to bring in a bill for the commutation of Church-rates.

VARIOUS BILLS.

The Public Health Bill, as amended, was considered, and, several clauses and provisions having been added, was agreed to. The Industrial Schools Bill was also considered and agreed to. The Reformatory Schools Bill was read a third time and passed. The Patriotic Fund Bill passed through committee.

SUSPENSION OF THE HABEAS CORPUS ACT.

Lord NAAS moved the second reading of the bill for further suspending the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland, assuring the House that nothing but the belief of its absolute necessity would have induced the Government to ask for a continuance of these extraordinary powers which had been so boldly and prudently used by the late Government that they had produced a great sense of security among the loyal and well-disposed portion of the community. Altogether 756 persons had been arrested, and 320 were still in custody, who must be discharged unconditionally on the 1st of September if this Act were allowed to expire. The Government desired to deal with these men in a spirit of forgiveness, but before discharging them desired to have these powers continued, so that they might take securities from them that they would leave the country and engage no more in their treasonable designs. To show that Fenianism was not yet extinct, he pointed to the raid on Canada and recent meetings in the United States, and mentioned that within a very recent period drillings had been going on in various parts of Ireland. It was hoped that when, by the continuance of these powers, the American agents were driven and kept out of the country, the people would at last become awake to the hopelessness of this conspiracy. Lord Naas next adverted to Mr. Maguire's resolutions, expressing a modified concurrence in some of them—in any other sense but as an amendment to this bill—but dwelling chiefly on the last two, which point to liberal legislation as the true cure for Irish ills. He pointed out that Fenian agitation was not directed against any cause which could be remedied by legislation; that the Fenians repudiated the authority of the Roman Catholic Church, and contemplated a general confiscation of the land, so that no change in the Established Church or in the tenure of land could content them. That, however, he assured the House, would make no difference in the earnest desire of the Government to introduce and promote any legislation which might be advantageous to Ireland.

Mr. MAGUIRE moved a string of resolutions affirming that the circumstances of Ireland have changed since the Act was first passed, that the supremacy of the law had been sufficiently vindicated by the ordinary tribunals, that political excitement had faded away, and recommending a liberal and remedial policy instead of repressive measures. He asserted that there were not above fifty men now in prison who would not gladly give any assurance in their power to get out, that Fenianism was dying out both in America and Ireland, referred to the records of the assizes to show that crime was greatly on the decrease, and, after dilating at great length on the land question, which he asserted lay at the root of the difficulty, he exhorted the Government with great fervour to come forward next session with large and liberal measures of conciliation.

Mr. GLADSTONE, agreeing with Mr. Maguire that the land question was the chief cause of Irish evils, and sharing in the desire to see it justly settled at the earliest moment, supported the bill, pointing out that in former cases the powers now asked had generally been taken for a longer period than six months, and expressing a confident belief that they would be exercised in a lenient spirit. In discussing Mr. Maguire's resolutions, he pronounced a glowing eulogium on the good faith of the American Government during the late raid on Canada, and an equally vigorous denunciation of the malignant wickedness of that enterprise; and, while agreeing in the general spirit of the resolutions, he argued that they were no reply to this demand of the Government. The members of the late Government, having consulted together, were of opinion that had they remained in office it would have been their duty to make a similar request; consequently, they were ready to take their share of responsibility for this measure.

The bill was opposed by Sir G. Bowyer, Mr. O'Beirne, and Mr. Dillon, who argued that no sufficient case of urgency had been made out, and supported by Sir F. HENEGATE, who believed that it would bring about a feeling of confidence which would induce a return of English capital to the country.

Mr. OSBORNE charged the condition of Ireland on English legislation, and particularly on the measures of repression which had been adopted, and taunted the English Government with not daring to call out the Irish militia, or put arms in the hands of Irish volunteers. He pointed to Canada as a proof that Irishmen when well governed were orderly and loyal; and described Fenianism as a communistic attempt at rebellion, pillage, and murder, the most dangerous feature of which was that the well-to-do farmers in the south sympathised with it, and would join the movement *en masse* on the first success. Passing to the remedial measures which should be introduced, he repudiated the "cuckoo cry" of "identical institutions," and insisted that the Establishment—with which successive Governments had been prevented from dealing by the bigotry of Scotch and English members—should be reformed, and if this were delayed too long it would be abolished, the Ecclesiastical Titles Act repealed, and Trinity College thrown open to men of all religions. He recommended, also, the substitution either of a Royal Prince or a Royal

residence for the Lord-Lieutenant, an official of no power or authority; and a settlement of the land question. Admitting that the winter could hardly be got through without some measure for dealing with the American agents, he declined to entrust these large powers to the present Government, and in support of this he commented on the declarations and the surroundings of various members of it. In Mr. Disraeli's knowledge of the Irish question, and in his ability to deal with it, were he not trammelled by the bucolic respectability behind him, he had the fullest trust, and, in concluding a witty and effective speech, he called on him to initiate a policy which, though it might shock a faction, would regenerate a people.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND (Mr. Walsh), after some preliminary remarks in defence of Trinity College and the landlords of Ireland, repeated that these extraordinary powers were absolutely necessary to enable the Government to deal with the 300 desperadoes remaining in the gaols, who, unless this bill were passed, would in three weeks be let loose in Ireland. While advocating for Ireland a comprehensive policy which would foster industry and enterprise, he deprecated the revival of perennial agitation, and the introduction into the debate of so wide a range of irritating topics.

Sir J. GRAY strenuously objected to unlimited powers being entrusted to a Government whose policy was represented by their Attorney-General for Ireland.

Mr. McLAREN could assure Mr. Osborne that if the Irish Church had no better advocates than the constituencies of Scotland, it would very soon topple over.

Mr. PIM could not justify it to himself to refuse the Government the power of suspending the Habeas Corpus Act under existing circumstances, although he admitted it was exceptional legislation.

Mr. WATKIN said he intended to vote against the further suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland, as the rights of 6,000,000 of people were under the absolute control of the Government. With only 300 men in prison, they were asked to suspend the liberties of the whole of the people of that country. No case had been shown for it, and he could not support such a proposition now, though he did so on a former occasion.

On a division Mr. Maguire's resolutions were rejected by 105 to 31.

The bill was then read a second time.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

THE EXTRADITION BILL.

At a morning sitting on Friday, Lord STANLEY moved the second reading of the Extradition Treaties Act Amendment Bill, and stated that its object was to render more operative the treaties which had been in existence since 1803. One of the provisions of the present act required the depositions on which the warrant for the apprehension of an offender was issued in a foreign country to be proved in accordance with the law and practice of this country; and the result was that warrants, although issued in a manner quite regular in France, were refused by magistrates here unless the seal of the foreign court and the handwriting of the judge were proved by oral testimony. It was this technical point that was remedied by the present bill.

Mr. M. TORRENS moved the rejection of the bill, on the ground that it was a leading principle of English law that no person should be delivered up on the requisition of a foreign Government unless such a case could be made out before an English magistrate as would justify such magistrate in committing a prisoner for trial for the offence charged; whereas, what the French Government now sought was that a French warrant should be sufficient to authorise an English magistrate to give up an offender, and, in fact, that our magistrates should act as police agents for France.

Sir R. COLLIER took on himself a full share of the responsibility of the preparation and introduction of the bill, and denied that it effected the least alteration in the principle of the law of this country in reference to extradition.

Sir F. GOLDSMID thought there ought to be a distinct understanding that political offences were not in any manner to be included in the extradition treaty.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL pointed out that what was now proposed to be done in regard to France was already in force in reference to the extradition treaty with America.

Mr. S. MILL said that he never knew an enlightened Frenchman who did not admit that the criminal courts of France were the worst-managed institutions in that country, and the worst part of their procedure was their mode of taking evidence. It was in the power of a juge d'instruction to take evidence in secret, and it was the easiest thing possible to get up false charges. And yet under this bill an English magistrate might be called on to surrender an alleged criminal on depositions taken from such a source. Care should be taken by the bill to secure that the treaty be not used against political offenders.

Sir R. PALMER stated that the alarm which was raised as to the probable effects of the bill were quite chimerical. At any time the Habeas Corpus Act could be put into operation to prevent the powers of the treaty being abused.

Mr. HENLEY said it would be much easier for the French Government to send over persons to give false oral testimony in this country, than to induce the

French courts to sign spurious documents and depositions.

On a division, the second reading was carried by 77 to 14.

Some progress was made in committee with the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act.

The Expiring Laws Continuance and the Common Law Courts (Fees and Salaries) Bills were read a third time and passed.

At the evening sitting, after some explanations had been given by Lord H. LENNOX (in answer to Colonel Sykes) as to the surrender of certain pirates to the Chinese authorities at Canton, and Mr. PIR had called attention to the delay of the American steamers at Queenstown, the House was counted out at ten minutes to eight o'clock.

The House met on Saturday at twelve. A question from Mr. Graves evoked from Sir J. PAKINGTON an incidental remark that the ships in reserve available for immediate service are but few in number, and that the Admiralty have had difficulty in supplying reliefs for ships returning from foreign service. The Habeas Corpus Suspension (Ireland) Act Continuance Bill was carried through committee, and, by a suspension of the standing orders, also read a third time and passed. Several other bills were also forwarded through their final stages.

In moving the adjournment of the House, Sir J. PAKINGTON proceeded to give certain explanations of particular items of dockyard expenditure which had been adduced on a former evening by Mr. Seely as instances of extravagance, and gave explanations to show that the adverse criticisms were not justified by the facts. Mr. SEELY, partially accepting the explanations, observed that his mistakes, if such they were, had been caused by the form in which the accounts were prepared. After some remarks in defence of the Admiralty by Mr. Childers and Mr. Corry, and a contrary sense from Mr. Ayrton, the House adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

THE CHOLERA IN LONDON.

On Monday, Mr. J. A. SMITH asked whether, viewing the extensive outburst of cholera in the eastern district of the metropolis, the Government were prepared to allow Parliament to separate without providing the means of summary interference in cases where the vestries may neglect the enforcement of sanitary precautions, or may omit or delay the necessary arrangements for the care of the sick, and the separation of the healthy from the dying and the dead.

Mr. AYRTON urged that the root of the evil to which the question referred was to be found in the want of proper local administration of the metropolis, especially in regard to the area of charge for the poor.

Mr. G. HARDY said that the subject last alluded to had been one of difficulty with all Governments; and by so much the greater was it to that just come into office; but it would meet with his best attention. The guardians of the poor in the metropolis by law had no power in regard to questions of public health, but it remained in the vestries. Greater powers would be given to the local bodies by the Public Health Bill just passing through Parliament, and he hoped that by means of that measure those bodies would be better able to grapple with the present emergency.

Mr. HENLEY, apprehending that the local authorities would have some difficulty in taking the necessary measures for want of money, regretted that the Government had not passed a short act to supply that deficiency either by a rate on the metropolis or in some other way. A penny rate on the whole metropolis would amount to 60,000*l.*, which would go a long way in precautionary measures.

Mr. NEATE concurred in the suggestion, and threw on the Government the responsibility of any calamity which might arise from want of means.

Colonel HOGG, as a member of a local board, urged that more stringent and summary power should be given to nuisance inspectors.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER deprecated interference with the ordinary local administration of the metropolis in a moment of hurry and alarm, and expressed a conviction that no Government, if an emergency should arise, would shrink from the responsibility of meeting it in any manner which might seem most effectual.

MR. FARNALL.

In answer to Mr. Villiers, Mr. G. HARDY said that Mr. Farnall had been removed from his inspectorship in London, but that step had no reference to the conduct of that gentleman.

THE BANK RATE.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, questioned by Mr. Alderman Selomons as to his willingness to renew the Government letter to the Bank without the proviso as to the 10 per cent. discount, promised to give the request the fullest consideration when it was brought before him, but declined to give any pledge as to what he would do.

The Indemnity Bill passed through its final stages.

EXTRADITION TREATIES.

In committee on the Extradition Treaties Act Amendment Bill, Sir F. GOLDSMID proposed a new clause excepting political offences from the treaty, and requiring a guarantee from foreign Governments that an offender shall not be tried on any other charge but that on which he has been surrendered.

Lord STANLEY objected to the clause, pointing out that it would exempt from extradition cases of political assassination, like Orsini's crime, or the recent shooting of a Fenian informer, and expressing a doubt whether any clause could be so worded as to be free

from a similar objection. He reminded the House that during the last twenty-three years no political offender had been demanded, and urged the unfairness of altering the bargain without communication with the other parties, and the futility of trying to bind a foreign Government which might wish to act dishonestly by a guarantee.

Mr. S. MILL supported the clause, urging that some such provision was necessary as a security against perversion of the treaty, which no doubt would be obtained so long as Lord Stanley was Foreign Secretary, but which might fail in other hands. He suggested the limiting of the operation of the treaty to twelve months.

Eventually, Lord STANLEY adopted this suggestion, with the understanding that the whole question should be brought before Parliament next session. Mr. Kinglake's clause, limiting the act for twelve months, was then inserted in the bill. Sir F. GOLDSMID withdrew his clause, and a clause proposed by Mr. M'C. Torrens, providing that the whole of the depositions shall be laid before the committing magistrate, was negatived without a division. The bill was then read a third time and passed.

Mr. WATKIN withdrew his motion for a commission to inquire into the Banking and Currency Laws, and the House adjourned at five minutes to eight o'clock.

THE CHOLERA.

The Registrar-General's report for the week ending last Saturday is not so unfavourable as might have been expected. The deaths in London from cholera were 1,053, an increase of 149 over the preceding weeks; from diarrhoea 354 against 347 the week previously. The total mortality of the metropolis was 2,661, being 1,266 beyond the average, and 61 more than last week. The Registrar-General says:—

Deaths from diarrhoea or cholera in small numbers occurred all over the London districts; in Kensington, Marylebone, Pancras, Islington, Holborn, the numbers were considerable. In the West districts of London 12 persons died of cholera; in the North districts 46 (including 19 in Islington, 20 in Hackney); in the central districts 31, including 12 in St. Botolph; in the South districts 47, including 21 in Deptford and Greenwich; while in the East districts 916 persons died of unequivocal cholera. Only 16 of the deaths from cholera occurred in one of the largest of the East districts, Shoreditch. The violence of the attack is still expended on Bethnal-green, Whitechapel, St. George's-in-the-East, Stepney, Mile-end Old Town, and Poplar, including Bow. There is some subsidence in Poplar and Stepney, but increased virulence in Bethnal-green and Whitechapel. The attack has been circumscribed by nearly the same lines for three weeks in succession. This is no accident; the phenomena are due to some specific cause. These violent outbreaks are almost invariably in England the result of contamination of the waters.

Reports from the eastern districts since Saturday have been of a chequered character. From ten o'clock on Sunday until the same hour on Monday, 16 persons suffering from cholera were received into the London Hospital; 12 deaths took place during the same period. The total number of choleraic patients admitted up to the present date is 401, of whom 328 were attacked by cholera, and 73 by choleraic diarrhoea. The number of deaths is 187, of which 178 arose from cholera and 9 from diarrhoea. From cholera 56 persons recovered, and 51 out of the 73 cases of diarrhoea were discharged cured. There remain in the hospital at present 94 sufferers from cholera and 13 from diarrhoea. In Poplar and the adjacent districts the cholera appears to have increased in severity, but in Bethnal-green and Mile-end the disease shows signs of abatement. In Bethnal-green the workhouse is so crowded that 94 persons had to sleep in the corridors during one night in the past week; consequently the admission of cholera cases was highly dangerous, if not impossible. After consultation with Mr. Farnall, the board of guardians have decided to purchase, for 100L, an iron building from the Fever Hospital, for the use of cholera patients. A medical assistant and two paid nurses have also been engaged to meet the exigency. The vestry of Bethnal-green are making arrangements with a staff of medical men and assistants for dealing with cases of cholera as they arise, and it is even proposed to convert the town-hall into a temporary hospital. In Shoreditch, several cases of cholera have occurred, but no serious outbreak has taken place. At the Westminster Hospital 90 cases of choleraic diarrhoea were treated on Sunday. On Monday there was a considerable diminution in the number of applicants. Cases still continue to occur among the floating population of the river and in the docks, though up to this time the increase has been by no means great.

The Rev. R. H. Killick, Rector of St. Clement Danes, has issued an invitation to a meeting for special prayer to be held in the vestry this evening, in reference to the cholera visitation. He expresses the hope that his Nonconforming friends and parishioners will join in this service.

A form of prayer on account of the increase of the cholera will probably be sanctioned by an Order in Council to-morrow.

A letter appears in Saturday's *Times*, signed by Mr. E. H. Currie, of the Bromley distillery, Mr. Henry Green, of Blackwall, and Mr. R. Wigram (of the firm of Messrs. Money Wigram and Sons), in which the writers express their opinion that the reports of the prevalence of cholera at the East-end which have been published are much exaggerated. There is, however, great and increasing distress, and that, too, among a class but little known to the

ordinary donors of charity—the skilled mechanics and small shopkeepers of the neighbourhood.

Mrs. Gladstone has made an appeal for funds to provide a home for the children of poor persons carried off by cholera.

Miss Marsh, the benevolent author of "English Hearts and Hands," appeals for subscriptions in aid of a convalescent hospital for cholera patients, which it is under the consideration of the committee of the London Hospital to provide with the shortest possible delay. Miss Marsh adds:—"I may be permitted, as an eyewitness, to say that nothing could exceed the thoughtful and efficient care rendered, with the most fearless devotion, to the patients of every age, by the chaplains, medical officers, and attendants. Not less admirable is the calm endurance of the patient sufferers."

Dr. Goss, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Liverpool, has granted an indulgence from fasts, including Friday fasts, until the 1st of October next. The object of this indulgence is to enable the poor people better to withstand the attacks of epidemic diseases, and particularly cholera.

Mr. James Glaisher has seen the "cholera mist" again, to which he called public attention in 1849. "Last Monday," he says, "(July 30), on looking from the grounds of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, under the trees towards the boundary walls of the park, I saw the same dense blue mist, which has continued without intermission to the present time, though somewhat less in density this morning. Ordinary mists pass away when the wind blows with a pressure of $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. on the square foot. Since last Monday we have had pressures of the wind varying from $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. to 9 lb. on the same area, blowing continuously for sixty to seventy hours, yet there has been no change in this blue appearance. I have examined the atmosphere daily for this blueness, particularly during the last twelve months, and have never seen anything like it since the year 1854."

A deputation of the governors and managers of the London Hospital waited upon the Lord Mayor on Saturday to ask his lordship's influence with the Corporation to procure a grant for the hospital. Mr. Thos. Buxton said they had given up one-third of the hospital, or the whole of one floor, exclusively to cholera patients, and in consequence of it being necessary to have one nurse to every three patients, they had been obliged to increase their staff of nurses, in addition to superintendents, many of whom rendered their services gratuitously.

The number of patients admitted into the cholera wards from the 10th of July to that morning, the 4th of August, was 365, of whom 299 were suffering from cholera and sixty-six from diarrhoea. Of these ninety-seven had recovered, or forty-eight from cholera and forty-nine from diarrhoea; 158 had died from cholera and eight from diarrhoea, or 166 in all; and 102 remained in the wards, ninety-three of them afflicted with cholera and nine with diarrhoea, very few of whom were convalescent. The number of out-patients treated during the same period in the receiving-room of the hospital, the cases not being severe enough for reception into the establishment, were 6,251, the attendance on whom involved extra labour and cost. The cholera staff of the hospital consisted at present of five resident medical officers, thirty-five day-nurses, thirty-five night-nurses, and four men employed by day and two men by night in other departments. The entire expenditure of the establishment had been increased for extra diet and stimulants to an extent beyond all previous experience in hospital treatment, including extra issues of wine and brandy to nurses, patients, and labourers. This year they were to have publicly opened a new wing of the hospital which they had lately built, and though they had been obliged to forego the intended ceremonial, which would probably have resulted in a large addition to the funds of the hospital, the completion of the new building had been most fortunate and opportune at this time when so much additional space was wanted by the extraordinary influx of patients and medical men. It had been perfectly astonishing to witness the zeal of the medical staff. At first there was a good deal of fear of contagion, but much of that had been abandoned, and all the authorities of the hospital, with many others, had volunteered their services in the emergency. Two nurses had died, and one was ill now, but the former were extra nurses, and had slept out in the neighbourhood of Bethnal-green or other places where there was cholera; so that the authorities of the hospital hoped the death of the two nurses was no absolute proof of the disease being contagious. It was frightful to witness the sufferings of many of the patients in the hospital. Fortunately, when the disease reached the state of collapse, the suffering appeared to cease, but in the earlier stages it was fearful. Many of the people who were brought in were just skin and bone, and they came in poisoned, as it were.

Mr. Nixon, the house-governor, said there were crowds of dying people for whom accommodation could not be found in the hospital. Mr. Samuel Gurney, M.P., observed as a sad and significant fact that on Friday last there were as many as thirty bodies in the dead-room, and people could not be got to bury them. They had since got sixteen of them buried; but on Friday the demands on the staff of the establishment were so great that time could not be found for the interment of the dead. A very great proportion of the patients were German sugar-bakers, large numbers of whom lived in that part of London. Mr. Sebag, a member of the deputation, observed that it was astonishing to see the number of little children in the wards of the hospital. A great object of the deputation, he said, was to obtain the advocacy of the Lord Mayor in the Court of Common Council in the emergency. The Lord Mayor promised to do his best to promote the object in view.

A very alarming case of death from Asiatic cholera was the subject of investigation on Friday by a coroner's jury. It seems that a man was noticed

walking along Whitechapel, when suddenly he exclaimed, "Oh!" ran to the other side of the street, and fell down. He was carried into the London Hospital, and was found to be dead. A post-mortem examination revealed the fact that his sudden death had been caused by Asiatic cholera.

Two fatal cases of cholera having occurred on Friday last in the Inner Temple, the authorities have caused the three pumps belonging to the society to be chained up; a notice being fixed on the pumps stating that no water is permitted to be drawn from them till the result of a pending analysis of the water from each has been ascertained. Information is added as to where supplies of New River water can in the meantime be obtained in the Temple.

A night for humiliation and prayer has been appointed by the people of Bow, on account of the cholera which has committed fearful ravages in that district. It is to be held at George-street Chapel on Wednesday, the 15th inst.

Dr. Lankester, medical officer of health of St. James's, Westminster, says:—

What we have to dread is an outbreak or spread of the disease by poisoned water such as is now occurring in the East of London. I think this can occur in no other way but by our pumps. They are manifestly unsafe. I have examined the water from them, and I have no hesitation in pronouncing them dangerous. A single hot day might throw any one of them into a state of fermentation, in which they would be dangerous to drink.

The reports from Liverpool continue favourable. The number of both deaths and admissions to the cholera wards continue at the lowest average since the commencement of the outbreak. The cholera sheds at the North End are now receiving patients.

The Town Council of Liverpool having resolved to contribute 5,000L towards the erection of an hospital for infectious and contagious diseases, the inhabitants of the town have already subscribed 8,000L for the purpose.

Appledore, in Devonshire, Sherborne, in Dorset, and Charlestown, in Cornwall, have been visited by cholera, several persons having died in these places. During the last few days the disease has abated. The Town Council of the city of Exeter have advertised for paid sanitary inspectors to make periodical house-to-house inspections.

The following letter was addressed by her Majesty's command to the Bishop of London:—

Osborne, Aug. 2.

My dear Lord,—The sufferings of a large number of poor persons from cholera in a particular district of London, though fortunately as yet only in a limited one, have most painfully attracted the Queen's attention, and her Majesty consequently learnt with satisfaction the proposal contained in your letter published this morning, to arrange with the Metropolitan Relief and District Visiting Association, of which your lordship is president, for the proper administration of a special Cholera Fund.

Her Majesty, feeling sure that under your lordship's presidency any funds which may be collected will be judiciously applied, has commanded me to forward a check for 500L to Messrs. Herries for the Cholera Fund, to be applied to the relief of the sufferers, most of whom, the Queen regrets to know, are in such a position of life as to be totally unable to provide themselves with the necessary means either to ward off the disease or to support themselves under its influence.

I have the honour to be, your lordship's most faithful servant,

T. M. BIDDULPH.

The Lord Bishop of London.

A committee has been formed, consisting of Mr. Thomas Baring, M.P., Rev. Frederick G. Blomfield, Sir T. Fowell Buxton, M.P., Mr. John Gilliat, Mr. Joseph Hoare, Mr. Andrew Johnston, Mr. Henry C. Roberts, Rev. William Rogers, and other gentlemen, for the purpose of collecting subscriptions for the relief of cholera patients. It is proposed to distribute money grants, supplies of wine, brandy, and clothing to the clergy of all denominations, the committees of visiting associations, dispensaries, and other charitable societies, in all districts of the metropolis where the disease is prevalent. At the Mansion House on Monday the Lord Mayor was invited to put himself at the head of this committee. His lordship gladly consented, and made a statement in court as to the needs of the sufferers, and the desirability of affording them speedy assistance. There is little doubt the Lord Mayor's appeal will meet with a hearty response.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen and the Royal family are expected to return to Windsor Castle on or about the 15th inst. The Queen will rest at the Castle for the night, and then proceed to Scotland.

On Saturday the Right Hon. Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer (late ambassador at the Porte) arrived at Osborne, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family.

On Sunday morning Divine service was performed at Osborne before the Queen and the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke of Edinburgh, Princess Louise, Prince Leopold, and Princess Beatrice. The ladies and gentlemen in waiting were present. The Rev. Robinson Duckworth, M.A., officiated.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-street. The Ministers afterwards proceeded down the river to the "Ship," Greenwich, where they enjoyed the customary whitebait dinner at the close of the session. A Privy Council will be held to-morrow at Osborne.

It is stated that Lord Cowley has sent in his resignation as Ambassador at Paris, and that he merely

holds office until the Government have decided on his successor. Earl Percy, son of the Duke of Northumberland, is vaguely spoken of for that important post.

The Earl of Shaftesbury has been suffering from a sharp attack of diarrhoea, but is now convalescent.

Friday was the last appointed day for cases at the Admiralty Court until November. Dr. Lushington, who is in his eighty-fourth year, appeared in excellent health. There is no truth in the rumour of his intended resignation.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have been staying during the last week at Goodwood Park as the guests of the Duke and Duchess of Richmond. The Prince and Princess closed their visit on Saturday.

It is announced that the Lord Justiceship of Appeal in Ireland will be offered to Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Stubbs, Librarian to the Archbishop of Canterbury, will be appointed Regius Professor of Modern History at the University of Oxford.

Miscellaneous News.

GREAT NORTHERN HOSPITAL, CALEDONIAN-ROAD, ISLINGTON, N.—Number of patients for the week ending August 4, 1866, of which 325 were new cases.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE RETURNS issued on Friday night by the Statistical Department of the Privy Council show that during the week ending July 28 there were 208 new cases as against 207 in the week before. Fresh outbreaks took place on 46 farms, the number being 33 in the previous week.

DRUNKENNESS.—A conference was held in Manchester on Thursday for the purpose of more stringently enforcing the laws against drunkenness. Among the speakers were several medical men, who stated that cholera was most virulent and fatal in its attacks when it broke out among persons of intemperate habits.

THE HYDE PARK RIOTS.—The following return has been made of the number of each rank of police injured during the meetings in Hyde Park on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, July 23, 24, and 25:—Rendered unfit for duty—Superintendents, 1; inspectors, 2; police-sergeants, 9; police-constables, 33; total, 45. Slightly injured—Superintendents, 9; inspectors, 18; police-sergeants, 32; police-constables, 170; total, 220. Total number injured—Superintendents, 10; inspectors, 20; police-sergeants, 32; police-constables, 203; total, 265. The Commissioner was struck several times by stones thrown at him; he received a severe contusion on the side of the head and a cut on the temple which blackened his eye. Each of the assistant-commissioners was struck several times by stones thrown at them.

MR. BRIGHT AND THE DUBLIN REFORMERS.—The Reformers of Dublin are procuring signatures to a letter inviting Mr. Bright to a banquet on a large scale in that city. It is intended to obtain the names of the members of country town councils also. The list is headed by Mr. J. F. Maguire, M.P., Mr. J. B. Dillon, M.P., The O'Donoghue, M.P., Sir John Gray, M.P., and Mr. N. D. Murphy, M.P. The Lord Mayor elect of Dublin and a number of magistrates and merchants have likewise signed the document. It is purposed to secure the largest available building for the celebration, and to invite other leading English politicians to take part in the demonstration. The terms of the invitation are these:—"We, the undersigned, admiring your public character, and grateful for your eloquent advocacy of the rights of our country, respectfully request your acceptance of a public banquet at Dublin on as early a day as your convenience will admit."

THE EARLY CLOSING MOVEMENT.—A crowded meeting of the linen-draper's shopmen and shopwomen was held on Friday evening at the Borough Literary Institute, to consider the best means of obtaining the Saturday half-holiday; Mr. Thomas in the chair. The statements made at a meeting of ladies assembled at Stafford House, on the 23rd of July, at the invitation of the Duchess of Sutherland, were repeated. It was mentioned that on Saturday, the 14th ult., an arrangement for closing business establishments at two o'clock on Saturdays, for three months, was entered upon by thirty-four leading silkmercers and linen-draperies houses at the West-end, the City, and other parts of London. Resolutions were carried unanimously, acknowledging the efforts of the tradesmen of South London who had promoted the movement, and resolving on continued efforts to secure the closing of the shops of drapers and upholsterers south of the Thames at 6 p.m. on Saturdays. A vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

THE ATLANTIC CABLE ENTHUSIAST.—Ever associated in my own mind with the Atlantic telegraph cable will be the wiry figure, the sharp, eager, kindly face of that thorough American, Mr. Cyrus Field. I will not, I repeat, pretend to say who deserves the greatest amount of honourable fame for carrying out the work, but I can confidently insist that no one deserves a larger share than Mr. Field. How many times—in winters, in summers; in times of war and in times of peace—have I not seen him bringing his darling idea, which haunted him, which possessed him, before such people as he fancied would, in one way or other, promote his ends? He told me a month ago that he had crossed the Atlantic thirty-seven times in connection with this undertaking. When he called upon me—which he was kind enough to do on many dozens of occasions—he had always either just arrived from New York, or was just leaving for it. He gave up all his time as well as his money to the work, and must have had a perfect sea

of cold water to resist in the course of his labours. Mr. Field is a religious man, and sometimes remarks escaped him which are not very frequently heard in the dealings of business. A short time ago he said at a gathering of the friends of the company, while replying to a toast, that every night and morning, in his prayers to Almighty God, after imploring a blessing on his wife and children, he was accustomed to ask the Divine favour on the voyage of the Great Eastern. As full of enthusiasm as a youth of eighteen, active and hopeful, Cyrus Field might find a special pleasure in thinking how glad his friends will be for his sake. If I envy any one's feelings at this moment, the feelings are those of Mr. Field.—*Correspondent of the Bury Post.*

THE LATE COLONIAL SECRETARY AND DR. UNDERHILL.—Mr. Cardwell has done tardy justice to Dr. Underhill. At the close of his speech in last week's debate on Jamaica, he reminded the House that Mr. Eyre attributed the disturbances in great part to the letter which Dr. Underhill had addressed to himself. He felt called upon to say "that the letter was a perfectly *bona fide* letter, which had been addressed to him for the purpose of obtaining a practical inquiry into the circumstances. He (Mr. Cardwell) had sent the letter to the Governor for that purpose, and, if the consequences that had since been said to have resulted from that letter were expected by the Government of Jamaica, there was no reason why it should have been published. With regard to those [who had been connected with that letter, he must say that nothing could have been more moderate and reasonable than the course Dr. Underhill had pursued; and of all the deputations that had waited upon him there was none which had more temperately and calmly dealt with the subject than that from the Baptist body."

OXFORD UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.—The sub-committee, presided over by the Rev. Dr. Shirley, "to consider the question of the extension of the University, with a view especially to the education of persons needing assistance and desirous of admission into the Christian ministry," have made a report to the effect that a new college or hall must be opened to give the benefit of the University to a class of men who cannot now enter. They suggest that in the proposed establishment "the charge for tuition be 4*l.* for furnished rooms, 3*l.* for battels, 10*l.* a term; Easter and Aot terms to count as one, making 51*l.* per annum. The payments for each term to be paid in advance. In the battels would be included breakfast, plain luncheon, dinner, attendance, and the general lighting of the college." Another regulation is, that breakfast and dinner be in common, the principal and tutors being for the most part present at those meals. Economy being the essence of the scheme, it is provided that "if any member contract debts beyond a certain amount, or be found to be forming expensive habits, he be requested to remove to some other college or hall, as not being the character for which this foundation is instituted." Facilities are also to be given for remaining in residence out of term.

BANQUET TO HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.—On Wednesday evening, Lord Derby, as First Lord of the Treasury, and the rest of her Majesty's Ministers, dined with the Lord Mayor. The dinner was served with more than usual splendour. The speeches of Lord Derby and the Chancellor of the Exchequer slightly referred to political topics. Referring to the war on the continent, the Prime Minister took credit for abstaining from taking an active part in favour or against one power or the other. If, he said, we saw the slightest prospect that our mediation, or that our good offices might procure the inestimable blessings of peace, we might be tempted to intervene, if asked to do so, for the purpose of obtaining that inestimable advantage; but we had not thought it our duty unasked to intrude our advice and counsel, or to offer our mediation, or to interfere in matters which, however remotely they touch the interests of this country, do not at the present moment affect our honour or our interests. His lordship said he would abstain from saying a single word on the question which had placed the present Government in office, though he would state that it was one which demanded the greatest deliberation, the greatest calmness, and ought to be approached in the most dispassionate manner, and if possible in the most impartial spirit. In connection with it, he deprecated anything which bore the appearance of intimidation or violence. His lordship paid a flattering tribute to the energy, perseverance, and enterprise of the promoters of the Atlantic cable, and expressed a hope that it might long continue as a link between England and America to unite the two people in the bonds of harmony and affection. The Chancellor of the Exchequer adverted to the Reform measures of the late Government, and said he thought all impartial persons would admit that when the House of Commons was called upon to consider the subject the country did not possess upon it adequate and accurate information, while the conclusions recommended for adoption were not sufficiently matured. He expressed his opinion that the discussion would not prove useless, as it had led to a consideration of the principles upon which power should be distributed among a free people. General Peel, in acknowledging the toast of "The Army," said he felt confident that the British army, when the British soldier is armed with the breech-loader, will be equal in equipment and means to any army in the world, as in point of discipline and courage it is inferior to none. Sir J. Pakington, for the Navy, made a point of stating that it would be impossible for England to maintain her place as the greatest maritime power of the world

without an immense expenditure, owing to scientific changes in guns and ships.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL.—The annual distribution of prizes to the successful pupils of this institution took place on Thursday in the theatre of the college, under the presidency of Mr. Julian Goldsmid, M.P., who was surrounded by a numerous gathering of the friends and supporters of the school. Amongst the prizes awarded were the following:—Greek, 6th class, Ainsworth, Sewell, Waley, Carpenter, Bryden, Bolton; Latin, 6, Robson, Sewell; French (essay prize), A. Stern; French, 6, A. Stern, Bolton; German, 6, W. Dobson, Henriques, H. Dobson; Hebrew, E. J. Emanuel; English, 6, W. J. Russell; Grecian and English History, Ainsworth and Robson (equal); Roman History, Maunder; English History, A. S. Powell and A. Wolff; Geography, Tagg and Hoppus; Social Science, H. F. Dale; Mathematics (Cook prize), W. H. Robson; Applied Mathematics, W. H. Robson; Experimental Natural Philosophy, H. F. Dale and S. Osler (equal); Practical Chemistry, E. Atkinson and Kenrick; Theoretical Chemistry, W. R. Robson; Arithmetic, H. Dale; Book-keeping, Anias; Writing, F. Green; Drawing, E. Blind (extra prize), and J. Hokes; Perspective, J. Fleming; Model Drawing, C. Dale; Drawing from Nature, E. Blind and J. Hokes; Gymnastics, R. Blind. In the junior schools the principal prizes were awarded to Lawrence (French), Lawrence and Jerson (English), Holmes and Lawrence (arithmetic); F. Jerson, J. Matthews, and H. Goodwin (writing). The Debating Society's prize was awarded to H. Dale; the Chess Club's prizes to H. F. Dale and W. H. Robson; English Essay prize to Dale and Blind (equal); and Cricket prize to T. A. Taylor. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the chairman addressed a few observations to the students, pointing out to them the inestimable advantages of starting in life with a good education such as was afforded in this establishment. He congratulated the teachers on the satisfactory progress which had been made by the pupils in the various branches of education in which they had been examined, and the successful competitors on the honours they had gained. He offered some admonitory remarks to the successful and the unsuccessful pupils as to the manner in which they should avail themselves of the benefits afforded by this institution, and hoped that they might return from their holidays (which were about to commence) with renewed health and strength to complete those studies in which many of them had already distinguished themselves. The proceedings (which had occupied nearly three hours) were then brought to a termination.

A MILLIONAIRE'S HOME.—The Paris correspondent of the *Morning Star*, having recently visited Baron James de Rothschild's princely chateau at Ferrières, describes what he saw there:—"You enter by a flight of marble steps a vestibule, which opens on one of the most spacious halls in Europe, furnished, however, as a reception-room, and lighted from the roof, which is of muffled glass, from behind which at night a system of gas illuminates the vast space, somewhat as has been so successfully carried out at the Chatelet. A gallery runs round the upper part of the hall, on which suites of party rooms open, while on the ground floor the reception and family apartments open on the hall. Purple velvet *portiers* have an admirable effect at each end of this splendid *salle*, which has been constructed on the most perfect acoustic principles, the result of which is that the effect of music executed here is marvellous. Ordinary paperhangings are banished, and each room is hung with tapestry, velvet, or silk. Every single visitor finds at his disposal a suite consisting of a splendid drawing-room, boudoir, bedroom, and dressing-room. On every dressing-room table are the ordinary contents of a gorgeous dressing-case. Ivory brushes surmounted by the baron's coronet; silver boxes, containing every species of *cosmetique*; exquisite hand-mirrors, mounted in sculptured ivory, sandalwood, or silver. Curiosity tempts even old bachelors. A scentbottle of rare workmanship attracted my attention. As the spring flew back, lo! a jewelled watch, by Breguet, was revealed encased in the top; so, while a fair lady inhales the perfumed contents she is informed of the time of day. To mention that hot and cold water pipes are laid on so as to supply each dressing-room is superfluous, and a mere 'detail' in an abode where the most thoughtful care has presided over the minutest arrangement. To describe the thrones taken from the Summer Palace at Pekin, the jewelled cups from Cellini's chisel, the ceramic from Faenza or Lucca, the crystal beakers from Venice, the hangings of brodered satin—green, by-the-bye, in the baron's own bedroom—is verily beyond my intellect, and I hesitate not to assert that Menemoseus herself would be puzzled to tell the half of all the treasures of art congregated in each single room. It is a positive relief to go out into the grounds, where one's power of attention has fewer calls on it. These said grounds are reached through a series of conservatories and hot-houses, *tapisées* with the loveliest moss, and filled by Flora's choicest gifts, as well as by the rarest specimens of the sculptor's art, and enlightened by the bright-winged birds of the tropics. These conservatories may, indeed, be said to rival in beauty, if not in extent, those of far-famed Chatsworth. The grounds are diversified by sheets of water, on which fairy boats continually ply, and are rendered interesting by the number of yaks, gazelles, antelopes, elands, and foreign animals of all harmless species, which roam at their own sweet will, evidently enjoying this Eden as thoroughly as their own native places."

Literature.

THE CAMBRIDGE SHAKESPEARE:
HAMLET—LEAR—OTHELLO.*

The new volume of the Cambridge Shakespeare contains the three famous tragedies, "Hamlet," "King Lear," and "Othello." The earliest edition of "Hamlet" appeared in quarto in 1603. For a long time only one copy of this edition was known to be in existence, and that copy was wanting the last leaf. Soon after its discovery, it passed very suitably into the possession of the late Duke of Devonshire. A very admirable reprint of this edition was made in 1825; and, though but a reprint, has always been to us and many others one of the most prized of Shakespeare treasures. Some ten years ago, a second copy of the original was accidentally acquired by a Dublin bookseller, Mr. Rooney, which fortunately contained the missing leaf, on which are printed the last lines of the play, about a score in number. Mr. Rooney reprinted this leaf, in a small pamphlet which we remember receiving with great exultation; and his perfect copy of the earliest "Hamlet" has now found its place amongst the national literary riches in the British Museum. The Cambridge editors have wisely reprinted this earliest form of "Hamlet"; and have marked in foot-notes the few discrepancies which have been discovered between the two copies. We may note, in passing, that a lithograph facsimile of this edition was issued at the expense of the Duke of Devonshire, and that it has since been reprinted, together with the second quarto of 1604; but we do not think it necessary to give any account of subsequent quartos, or of the copies printed for the use of players at the end of the seventeenth century. Of the relation of the text of the folio of 1623 to the prior editions, all that is needful or interesting to be known is summed up by the Cambridge editors in the following passage of their preface:—

"The text of 'Hamlet' given in the Folio of 1623 is not derived from any of the previously existing Quartos, but from an independent manuscript. Many passages are found in the Folio which do not appear in any of the Quartos. On the other hand, many passages found in the Quartos are not found in the Folio. It is to be remarked that several of those which appear in the Folio and not in the Quarto of 1604 or its successors, are found in an imperfect form in the Quarto of 1603, and therefore are not subsequent editions. Both the Quarto text of 1604 and the Folio text of 1623 seem to have been derived from manuscripts of the play curtailed, and curtailed differently, for purposes of representation. Therefore in giving in our text all the passages from both Folio and Quarto we are reproducing, as near as may be, the work as it was originally written by Shakespeare, or rather as finally retouched by him after the spurious edition of 1603."

We think the evidence is in favour of this rather strongly stated conclusion; and that we have thus attained the best possible text of the play. Every student of Hamlet will, however, observe, on the hastiest examination of the notes in which conjectural emendations are collected, and of the text of the editors to which they are subjoined, how many still are the passages which present insuperable difficulties, and which we may well take to be hopelessly corrupt. The passage (I. 4.) :—

"—the dram of eale
Doth all the noble substance of a doubt
To his own scandal"—

remains unaltered after the collation of folios, quartos, and players' copies, and the due weighing of no less than forty conjectural emendations, of which it is unquestionably true that "none is satisfactory." Another well-known phrase, "woot 'drink up eisel?" on which conjecturers have spent some pains, and on which pretty little discussions, sometimes amusingly earnest and warm, have arisen, still remains in its obscurity, and the reader must judge for himself whether it means "vinegar" or some river—whether Yssel, Nile, or Oesil, he may arbitrarily choose. We might quote a few new conjectures that have been suggested to the editors, from various quarters, but not one of them appears sufficiently important to receive the distinction of either transfer to the text or special illustration. We can hardly omit to add, that the "fond and winnowed opinions" of which Hamlet speaks (V. 2) have still to maintain themselves on the authority of the folio editions against such conjectures as "sane and renowned," "profane and tres-renowned," and half-a-score others equally removed from probability and sense.

We turn to "King Lear," the text of which does not present so many interesting phenomena as that of "Hamlet"; although we learn from the editors that a collation of six copies of the only two quarto editions known to have been published, has disclosed a large number of very curious and important variations. There is a passage in Act V. s. iii., where

Lear and Cordelia being prisoners, the former says—

"Wipe thine eyes;
The good-years shall devour them, flesh and fell,
Ere they shall make us weep," &c.

The *good-years* was amended by Hammer, *goujeres*, "a loathsome disease"; and, as a corruption of *goujeres* (Fr.), the word *good-years* is explained in the glossary to the "Globe Shakespeare," issued by the Cambridge editors. In this view of the passage the "them" following "devour" refers to the unnatural enemies of the old king, and his words amount to the coarse old phrase, "Pox on them"—and it "shall devour them, flesh and skin, e'er they shall make us weep." But, it might be paralleled from many characteristic passages in Shakespeare, if we should hold that the *them* is loosely used, and with a reference to the eyes of Cordelia, which are weeping, and similarly to those of Lear:—

"Wipe thine eyes,
The good-years shall devour them, . . .
Ere they (the persecutors) shall make us weep."

The explanation of *good-years* might then be sought in the third and fourth Acts. In the third, Goneril says to Cornwall, concerning "the traitor Gloucester," "Pluck out his eyes": and subsequently Cornwall, "Upon these eyes of thine I'll set my foot": and, after one of Gloucester's eyes has been gouged by Cornwall and trampled on by him, a wounded servant says, "My Lord, you have one eye left to see some mischief on him": and Cornwall replies—

"Lest it see more, prevent it. Out, vile jelly!
Where is thy lustre now?"

—and again, "Turn out this eyeless villain,—throw 'this slave upon the dunghill." In the fourth Act we find Lear meeting Gloucester in the fields near Dover; and, learning his case, he says, "No eyes in 'your head, no money in your purse, &c. If thou wilt weep my fortunes, take my eyes." When, therefore, Lear and Cordelia subsequently fall into the hands of them "that are to curse them," the "old and miserable king," seeing Cordelia weeping, recalls Gloucester's punishment, and vows that before he and she will weep their fate, "the 'gougers shall devour their eyes." This substitution of *gougers* for *good-years* has been suggested to the Cambridge editors, and inserted by them as a conjecture, but, as their plan requires, without the explanations we have here given, and which seem necessary to give it probability.

In Act IV. 6, we have the words, "O, well 'flown, bird! i' th' clout, i' th' clout!" The quartos read, "bird in the air"; and Theobald, followed by Warburton, would read, instead of *bird*, "O, well flown 'barb!" &c. The simple fact is, that the words are spoken of a "fellow that handles 'his bow like a crow-keeper": and as those using the bow shot with *bird-bolts*, and not with *barbs*, there is no mystery in the exclamation, "O, well 'flown, bird!" as the abbreviation of *bird-bolt*. Another passage has caught our eye, which reminds us of one of the absurdities of the learned Johnson:—Lear says, "Why, this would make a man a man of salt." On which Johnson remarks, that it means, "would make a man melt away like salt in hot 'weather"! O, rare Sam! Hot weather preserves salt: moist weather dissolves or melts it! The sense is plain from the next lines:—

"To use his eyes for garden waterpots,
Ay, and laying Autumn's dust":

—and "a man of salt" is a man in tears, for tears are said to be salt.

We intended to notice some possible emendations of the text of "Othello," but have already given to this volume all the space we can at present afford. We need not repeat our sense of obligation to the editors, or our general opinion of their faithful labour and its invaluable result.

PROFESSOR HENRY ROGERS'S NEW
VOLUME.*

Those who have read with delight and profit the various writings of Mr. Henry Rogers would gladly and gratefully welcome an altogether new work from his pen; but even a volume in which he reproduces, in a thoroughly revised form, one of his most characteristic and valuable essays, and brings together some of the scattered pieces he has lately contributed to serial publications, will meet with no languid acknowledgment of pleasure and obligation. The volume before us is no merely occasional production; but gives a finished and permanent form to essays which have largely the ripest thought, the acutest criticism, and the most brilliant manner of their well-known author. It belongs to quite the highest order of literature of the present time, and has an importance to religious thought and criticism scarcely exceeded among recent English books.

The widely-circulated and now celebrated essay on "Reason and Faith" is, perhaps, that production by which Mr. Rogers will long hence be more generally known than even by the remarkable

* *Reason and Faith; with other Essays.* By HENRY ROGERS. Longmans and Co.

"Eclipse of Faith," or the diversified "Greyson Letters," notwithstanding that these are almost as entertaining and fascinating as they are searching, acute, profound, and full of noblest power. The essay we refer to has already appeared in no less than eight forms, and has been now for some time out of print. It appears to have been Mr. Rogers's wish to recast it, and divide it into chapters; but he has found that "the peculiarities of form originally imposed on it by its having been written for a review, so clung to it, that it was not easy to do this 'without entirely rewriting it.'" He has therefore revised at leisure, and has introduced alterations which he justly says "are neither few nor trivial." The articles which formerly stood as appendices have been incorporated into the essay, with the single exception of that on Strauss, which has been left nearly as before, as "the alterations in his new edition (of the 'Leben Jesu'), of which the chief 'are that he 'abates his Hegelian mysticism' (to 'use an expression of one of his critics), and no longer absolves the founders of Christianity of all 'fraudulent design, leave untouched those main 'peculiarities of the work on which alone these 'criticisms are founded.'" Some portions of the essay have been abridged, others extended; "the 'additions, however, on the whole, being largely in 'excess of the omissions.'" This excellent work of revision is perfected by prefixing to the essay a careful table of contents, in which "the succession 'of topics, and the space given to each" are so marked as to facilitate reference and give a useful outline of the argument. As to some of the new passages introduced, the author [quietly remarks, that, should they be recognised as having appeared in other "Quarterlies" than the *Edinburgh*, he is still "as little guilty of plagiarism as the man can 'be guilty of poaching who shoots over his own 'manor.'" We are ourselves so sensible of the value of this revision of "Reason and Faith," that we think it will be necessary to all who shall hereafter profess acquaintance at all with the work, even though they may have it already, as we ourselves have, in three or four of its earlier forms.

There is a very important passage in the preface to this new volume, which should receive the attention of all Mr. Rogers's readers and critics. It is founded on a misunderstanding by Mr. Farrar, the Bampton Lecturer of 1862, and we have reason to think not by him only, of the character and force of the argument which Mr. Rogers has largely employed in his various writings. Mr. Farrar says:—"It is very common to hear or read the dilemma 'put before the doubter, that he must accept every- 'thing or nothing in Christianity and the Bible': and there is then given a general reference to the 'Greyson Correspondence.'" Mr. Rogers thus explains and vindicates his own position and opinions:—

"I thought, indeed, that in that very publication (Letters cii., ciii.), as well as in 'Reason and Faith' (Appendix No. iii., now incorporated into the body of the Essay), I had taken the very ground which this author supposes me not to have taken."

"I freely conceded, that in the Scriptures, as we have them, there are many apparent and some real discrepancies—the last probably due to the inevitable corruptions of time, and the conditions under which all ancient documents are transmitted to us; I further conceded that even if these discrepancies were attributed to some remaining ignorance or error on the part of the sacred writers, such a theory (though I did not embrace it) might be and often was held, with the undoubting admission of everything essential or significant in the New Testament; adding that if the theory were applied, as in equity it should be, only to cases of proven contradictions and absolutely irreconcilable discrepancies, these were so few in number and so trivial in character, that if the passages involving them were left out of the New Testament they would make 'no appreciable difference to its text.'"

"It is clear, therefore, that I do not hold that the alternative is 'to receive the whole of the Bible and Christianity, or none of it.' I apprehend that the statement has arisen from misconception of certain expressions to which I still firmly adhere, and which will be found both in the treatise on 'Reason and Faith,' and in the 'Greyson Letters'; namely, that the *a priori* principle on which rationalism often accepts certain facts and doctrines, and rejects others which stand nevertheless on precisely the same evidence; the principles by which it abridges or expands the contents of Revelation, according to its notions of what it ought to be, or must be, or cannot be—thus giving it (as is notoriously the case) every variety of dimension according to the predisposition or mood of different minds—is altogether indefensible; and that there is no logical resting-place between the entire reception or the entire rejection of whatsoever in the Scriptures is confirmed by the same evidence. But though I am fully persuaded that there is no logical medium here, I am far from saying even then, that it is all one bow far the rationalism, thus exercised, extends: it may leave the essence of the Gospels, as it often has done, altogether untouched. But the principle, as it appears to me, for reasons abundantly stated in the Essay itself, is altogether arbitrary, as is seen by the infinitely diversified drafts of Christianity presented by the different schools of rationalism, and which occupy every conceivable position between the limits of orthodoxy and deism; between him who accepts with trivial deductions the entire New Testament, and a Christian after the fashion of Strauss or Renan. What I have said, therefore, is a very different thing from saying that it is of very little consequence how much is accepted if anything at all be rejected, or that everything that is rejected is of equal moment."

We shall be pardoned for so long an extract by those of our readers who have felt or observed the

* *The Works of William Shakespeare.* Edited by W. G. CLARK, M.A., Fellow and Tutor of Trinity College, and Public Orator in the University of Cambridge; and WILLIAM ALDIS WRIGHT, M.A., Librarian of Trinity College. Vol. 8. Macmillan and Co.

influence of Mr. Rogers's works in the great argument for Christianity, and who desire that it should not be weakened by misrepresentation of its bearing; and especially by those who recall allusions, some bitter and some sneering, to the manner and spirit of our author's reasoning, which sometimes have proceeded from men whose misapprehension and perverseness have occasioned us both pain and surprise. We cannot restrain ourselves from the further quotation of the following remarks on the use of the dilemma in the conduct of an argument:—

"As regards his remarks on the 'Dilemma,' to which he supposes me peculiarly addicted, he will, I am sure, excuse me, and I think on reflection even agree with me, when I say that there is nothing whatever that he has said here that does not apply equally to any conceivable form whatever, into which arguments on behalf of conclusions opposed to our own may be thrown. 'Dilemmas,' no doubt, which shut us up to one of two conclusions, neither of which we are inclined to accept, are very unpleasant things; but not more so than arguments which as cogently shut us up to one conclusion equally unpalatable. Nor, I confess, do I understand what is meant when it is said that 'a dilemma is rather a rhetorical trick than a logical argument.'

"Of the dilemma, as of all other arguments, I suppose it may be said, and that in the form of the 'dilemma' itself, that they are either sound or unsound: if the former, they are certainly not rhetorical tricks; if the latter, they may with equal justice be called so, whatever their form. Nor is it possible to suppose that the dilemma, consisting as it does merely of a combination of syllogisms, can be more a 'rhetorical trick' than the employment of them separately; and assuredly of it, as of all other arguments, it may be said with great truth, that if it be false, it may be shown to be so. As to the assertion 'that the heart, if not the head, can always find means to escape from an alternative which it dislikes,' it is lamentably true indeed that the Will is too often a stronger logician than the Reason, and that the heart can put the head into 'dilemmas' of the most exasperating kind. But then it is equally clever in doing this, if the conclusion to which logic would lead us be unacceptable, whether the form into which arguments are thrown be a dilemma, or a syllogism of any mood and figure whatsoever.

"It is also doubtless true that opposition will be often provoked in proportion to the very clearness and sharpness with which unacceptable alternatives are presented (whatever the form of argument); but this is the fault not of him who offers but of him who rejects them."

The next portion of the present volume consists of the "Critique on M. Renan," which first appeared in the *London Review*; and which remains still, in our judgment, the most acute exposure and strong-handed demolition of that elegant, feeble, false, and bad-hearted book that has been produced by an English critic; and it is unquestionably the most interesting criticism we have read. The remaining contents consist of five of the essays, with additions, contributed by the author to *Good Words* last year. They well deserve this reproduction, and are, we conceive, likely to be very serviceable as criticisms, written with adequate culture, and in a spirit as philosophical as it is religious, of certain tendencies and speculations of modern science, and especially of the monstrous dogmatism of "so-called science." We have before referred to some of these as they appeared from time to time; and we may justly conclude that they are already known to very many of our readers. Had we space we should gladly extract the thoughtful, serious words with which Mr. Rogers closes his preface; but must terminate this grateful and admiring notice with a single sentence, in which the whole spirit and influence of his teaching is concentrated:—

"We see, indeed, that there are some laws, and especially those which man may most perfectly know, but can never hope to control, which do not vary, and which are subject to exact calculation; but those in which God has ensnared the interests, the hopes, the fears, the joys, the sorrows of us His reasonable, but not very docile creatures, are still administered in a way calculated to teach us, if anything can, a sense of dependence and a feeling of humility."

BRIEF NOTICES.

Photographic Portraits of Men of Eminence in Literature, Science, and Art. With Biographical Memoirs. The Photographs from Life, by ERNEST EDWARDS, B.A. Edited by EDWARD WALFORD, M.A., Nos. 35-37. (A. W. Bennett.) This very interesting publication has already completed four volumes, which contain the portraits of the principal authors, artists, and otherwise intellectually distinguished men of the time, with a sprinkling of a few celebrated ladies. The plan of the work is excellent. The execution of the photographs is in the highest manner yet attained, and the likenesses of persons with whose faces we are familiar have been admirably caught, and succeed in presenting the delicacies of feature and of light and shade that are almost always either missed or exaggerated by an ordinary photographer. The numbers before us form the commencement of a new volume, each containing three portraits, and, to specify the contents of the last only, we have a characteristic portrait of Mark Lemon—looking a very Falstaff in the prime of life; another of Dr. Ramsay, of the Geological Survey, and well known to science; and the third of Shirley Brooks, whose diversified writings have found readers of all kinds of tastes and sympathy. The biographies are brief, written without pretence, and wisely limited to the surface facts of the life and achievements of the persons portrayed. The memoir

of Dr. Ramsay is the best in the present number. In a work of so high a character, it is hardly worth while to quote opinions of the *Era* and *Illustrated News* as to the character or the success of what men have done. We can hardly conceive a more interesting table-book than these volumes offer; and we heartily commend the work to our readers.

Curiosities of Literature. By ISAAC DISRAELI. (Routledge and Co.) This is a first part of a cheap and elegant reprint of one of the most entertaining books in the language. There is positively no class of readers but has found it delightful, instructive, helpful to the amusement of leisure hours, and direction of further profitable reading. But we need not praise a book so marvellous, and so widely known and prized. This new edition, to be completed in six parts, brings it within the reach of all who are purchasers of books at all; and, although the type is very small, it is remarkably clear and elegant, and is printed on good thick toned paper.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Messrs. Williams and Norgate have in the press a new translation of all the "False Gospels" now extant. This volume is to be followed shortly by the remaining Apocryphal books of the New Testament—Acts, Epistles, and Revelation. The translator is Mr. B. Harris Cowper, who will supply carefully prepared introductions, notes, &c. No version of these writings into English has been made for above a century, and no complete collection has ever been published in this country.

Among other rumours floating in the air is that a new opera is to be written expressly for Mdle. Adeline Patti, and, if so, possibly by Mr. Costa.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY.—The receipts at the doors of the Royal Academy Exhibition, now closed for the year, turn out, notwithstanding the remarkable amount to which they rose in the earlier half of the period of opening, to have been not so great as was the case last season. The influence of universally expressed public opinion on the inferior selection of the works for display has apparently made itself felt in the pockets of the Academy. The bad, or rather careless, hanging of pictures has provoked many remonstrances, applicable to the ill-taste which suspended close to the ceiling the glorious "Moonrise," by M. Daubigny, one of the most honoured of French landscape painters, as well as to the elevation, above five doors, of so many admirable pictures, while the line was crowded with those of inferior quality, and the space above it sacrificed to bad portraits in unusually large numbers. The sale of pictures at the Academy has been greater than on former occasions, considering the panic and other drawbacks.—*Athenæum*.

A NEW TEA.—The leaves of the *Angræcum fragrans* of Thouras, an epiphytal orchid of the island of Bourbon, where it is known under the name of Faham, have recently been introduced in Paris as a most agreeable beverage. This new description of tea is already become a regular article of trade. It combines the tonic and digestive qualities of tea without its tendency to produce sleeplessness.

Blind Tom, the negro prodigy, is exhibiting his singular musical capacity at the Egyptian Hall.

Professor Agassiz says that the strip of "highlands which divide the waters flowing into the St. Lawrence from those flowing into the Atlantic," is the oldest land in the world. It was once a lonely sea-beach, washed by universal ocean.

DECLINE OF NOVEL READING.—Either the taste for novel-reading is on the decline amongst us, or the number of three-volume novels appearing from the various publishing-houses is too great for the market. At Mudie's and the large West-end libraries, the number of each novel now "subscribed for" is only about half of the quantity usually taken five or six years ago, when novel-reading was "the rage." The librarians, too, find it better to fill their shelves with standard or useful books, which, when the excitement of their birth is past, are worth at least a third of their original prices, and which, when encased in half-calf, sell very readily to village or other libraries. As a rule, a three-volume novel may be purchased three months after its publication for three shillings—rarely more than three shillings.—*London Review*.

Gleanings.

"Our liberties are preserved in brine," said Douglas Jerrold—the sea is our safety and our strength.

"You cruel man!" exclaimed Mrs. Jones, "my tears have no effect on you at all."—"Well, drop them, my dear," said Jones.

A few days ago Mr. Buckland came into possession of a fine salmon, probably artificially bred, caught in the Thames as high up as Gravesend.

"A stethoscope," says a young medical student, "is a spy-glass for looking into people's chests with your own ears."

The number of wrecks reported during the past week has been 30, making for the present year a total of 1,244.

The New York *Commercial Advertiser* mentions that seven young ladies have just taken the degree of Bachelor of Arts at the Maine Wesleyan Seminary.

The newspapers of the northern parts of England state that the working-classes are registering their new-born children by the name of "Gladstone."

One pound of green copperas, dissolved in one quart of water, and poured down a sink-drain, will effectually destroy the foulest smells.

Why are collectors of the customs the most praiseworthy men we have?—Because they never neglect to attend to their duties.

Stupid people may eat, but shouldn't talk. Their mouths would do well as banks of deposit, but not as banks for the issue of notes.

A lady excused her extreme love for diamonds and other precious stones, by saying "They are the only bright things which never fade on earth."

The governor of a county prison, when asked how many he could hang on his new drop, replied, "Why, we can hang six; but can hang four comfortably."

A country doctor, going on foot to visit a patient in a neighbouring village, took a gun to amuse himself on the road. A peasant met him, and asked him whither he was going? "To see a patient." "Are you afraid of missing him?" said the inquirer.

Mr. G. R. Wright, F.S.A., describes in the current number of the *Gentleman's Magazine* an animal recently found near Chipping Norton, in Oxfordshire, and which both the writer and Mr. Frank Buckland and Professor Owen consider to be nothing less than a species of the genus crocodile.

SINGULAR MATRIMONIAL STORY.—The Hon. Obadiah Browne and Mrs. Cora Browne were remarried a short time since at New Haven. They were first married nearly a quarter of a century ago, lived happily for some time, and became parents of two sons, now grown up. Trouble came and they were divorced. Mr. Brown married again, and after living with his second wife for a number of years was divorced from her. He finally renewed the acquaintance of his first wife, and the result was that he has now led her to the altar for the second time.

LONDON FOUNDED BY JULIUS CESAR.—At London the Roman general was able both to watch his enemy and to secure the conquests he had made, while his ships could supply him with all the necessaries he required. When, in the autumn of the year 43, he drew the lines of circumvallation round his camp, he founded the present metropolis of Britain. The spot he selected has been—perhaps with one small interval—the habitation of civilised man for 1,833 years. May we not venture to hope that its influence for good has been not altogether unworthy of the position it has occupied among the cities of the world?—*Dr. Edwin Guest*.

IN THE RIGHT PLACE.—We have from time to time recorded the names of ladies in America who, after affording proofs of their competency, have been admitted to practise as physicians in the United States. We have now to notice that at the St. Mary's Dispensary for Women and Children, in Marylebone, the office of general medical attendant is exercised by Miss Elizabeth Garrett. This lady is the first legally qualified female medical practitioner that England has produced. She holds the license of the Society of Apothecaries, but the College of Physicians, it is said, has refused to admit Miss Garrett to be examined for the degree of M.D. At present, however, she occupies a post (for which she has shown herself qualified) which a woman may very fittingly occupy for the benefit of women and children.—*Athenæum*.

ANECDOTE OF A FRENCH CELEBRITY.—The Paris correspondent of the *Star* tells a pleasing story of the great champagne grower, Madame Cliquot (veuve), whose death has recently been announced. Three years ago her son-in-law, the Count de Chevaligné, lost in the Rue Croix des Petits Champs a portfolio, containing forty bank notes of 1000f. (40l. each). The Count, on discovering his loss, gave notice to the police, remarking at the same time that he had no hopes of recovering it—adding, however, "I start for Rheims this evening; my name and address are inscribed on the pocket-book; therefore if it should be found you can forward it to me." That evening, as M. de Chevaligné was about to take his ticket at the railway-station, a poor workman came up to him and asked him if he had lost anything. "Of course," answered the Count; "in the Rue Croix des Petits Champs I dropped my pocket-book, with forty notes of 1,000 francs each in it." "I am happy, sir, to return it to you; pray open the portfolio and reckon the money." M. de Chevaligné expressed his gratitude by a polite bow, took his ticket, and started for Rheims. When at dinner he entertained his mother-in-law with the anecdote. "What reward did you give the poor man?" inquired Madame Cliquot. "None," replied this representative of aristocracy; "it never struck me." "Well, then, the best thing you can do," replied his mother-in-law, "is to return by the next train to Paris, find out the poor man's address—which you will easily do at the police office—and share with him the 40,000 francs he restored to you, adding 10,000 francs on my account." The poor workman has been ever since enjoying an income of 70l. per annum, the interest of the sum he owes to his honesty.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

City, Tuesday Evening.

The tone of the stock markets shows no permanent improvement. A temporary recovery took place yesterday, but a large withdrawal of gold from the Bank and other causes prevented its becoming more than temporary. There is still, so far as appearances go, no prospect of an early reduction of the Bank rate from the present of ten per cent. It is stated that the Bank o

England have been large borrowers lately on Government stock.

Consols closed at 87½ to 88 for money, and at 88 3-16 to 88 5-16 for account.

The half yearly report of the London and County Bank, held on the 2nd inst., was of a most favourable character, the dividend and bonus declared being equivalent to twenty-two per cent. per annum.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, Aug. 1.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued	£27,932,340
Government Debt ..	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	£ 8,984,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	12,982,340
	£27,932,340

BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve	£ 3,771,012
Public Deposits ..	£ 3,189,580
Other Deposits ..	£ 17,738,851
Seven Day and other	£ 716,438
Bills	£ 239,983,881
	£ 239,983,881

Aug. 2, 1866.

W. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Health's Fountain.—It cannot surely be necessary to remind any intelligent reader that the purity of the blood determines every invalid's health and vigour. Holloway's medicine searches out the slightest taint in the vital fluid, and neutralises or expels it, so that the circulation supports the system in place of sowing the seeds of decay. When epidemics are advancing and disease is steadily on the increase, it behoves every one to have a restorative like these Pills ready to set right any irregularity in stomach, liver, bowels, or kidneys, and Holloway's treatment is especially suitable for the young, delicate, and nervous, who are most susceptible of any prevailing sickness, and whom violent measures would endanger little less than the epidemic.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

JARVIS.—July 26, the wife of the Rev. G. P. Jarvis, of Limerick, of a son.

SANGSTER.—July 26, at 7, Haverstock-terrace, Hampstead, the wife of Mr. James Sangster, of a daughter.

NODES.—August 2, the wife of Sydenham Nodes, Esq., of 16, Upper Bedford-place, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

STEPHENSON—COLEMAN.—May 24, at the Congregational church, North Adelaide, South Australia, by the Rev. J. Jeffers, LL.B., Mr. Thomas Henry Stephenson, of Mount Barker, to Miss Sarah F. Coleman, of Fairfield, near Mount Barker.

WILSON—FOALE.—July 25, at Hope Chapel, Plymouth, by the Rev. W. Foale, of Langport, Somerset, uncle of the bride, the Rev. John Wilson, of Burnley, Lancashire, to Eliza, eldest daughter of Mr. R. Foale, Devonport.

PIKE—BEVIS.—July 26, at Ramsgate, by the father of the bride, assisted by his son the Rev. Henry Bevis, Christopher, second son of John Pike, Esq., of Caversham House, Brixton-hill, Surrey, to Mary, second daughter of the Rev. H. J. Bevis, Ramsgate. No cards.

RAWNSLEY—ANDERSON.—July 28, at Saltire Congregational church, by the Rev. J. P. Chown, Mr. Joseph Rawnsley, of Horton, to Miss Margaret Anderson, of Bradford. No cards.

WEEKES—ALDRIDGE.—July 31, at the Vines Congregational Church, Rochester, by the Rev. E. W. Shalders, B.A., Ambrose Weekes, of Tinnoth House, Cuxton, Kent, to Elizabeth Sara Eliza Aldridge, of Rochester.

SHIELDS—ALLEN.—July 31, at the Old Meeting House, Norwich, by the Rev. J. Hallett, assisted by the Rev. E. S. Shields, brother of the bridegroom, Daniel, second son of Mr. D. Shields, to Bethia, younger daughter of Mr. Bryant Allen, all of Norwich.

MARYON—HAT H.—July 31, at the New-road Chapel, Oxford, by the Rev. William Allen, Theophilus, eldest son of J. Maryon, Esq., of 1, Chetwynd Villa, York-road, Highgate, to Mary Derphine, only daughter of H. Hatch, Esq., of Oxford.

CLARK—RICHARDSON.—August 1, at the Presbyterian church, Westbourne-grove, by the Rev. David King, LL.D., James Proctor Clark, Esq., of Montreal, to Jane, elder daughter of William Richardson, Esq., of No. 9, Westbourne-park. No cards.

COLLINS—SAWDOSE.—August 1, at Cross-street Chapel, Islington, by the Rev. Mr. Ballhaghe, Mr. F. C. Collins, Seymour-street, Euston-square, London, to Matilda, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Lewis Sawdosc, of Carlisle.

OOK—PAYNE.—August 1, at Tacket-street Chapel, Ipswich, by the Rev. John Gay, Mr. William Cook, St. Margaret's, to Miss Charlotte Ruth Payne, Norwich-road, Ipswich.

ORASTON—TRAVIS.—August 2, at the United Methodist Free Church, Baillie-street, Rochdale, by the Rev. J. Molinex, Edward Robson, eldest son of Mr. Councillor Oraston, of Manchester, to Hannah, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Robert Travis, of Lichfield House, Blackley.

CROSSLEY—MIAL.—August 2, at Gallowtree-gate Chapel, Leicester, by the Rev. J. G. Miall, of Bradford, and the Rev. T. C. Gray, of Halifax, Francis, third son of Robert Crossley, Esq., of Halifax, to Fanny, second daughter of the late William Miall, Esq., of Harwich.

LANGHAM—NEW.—August 2, at Derby-road Chapel, Nottingham, by the Rev. J. Martin, John Langham, of Walton, Leicestershire, to Martha Ann, eldest daughter of David New, Esq., Waverley House, Nottingham.

BANTICK—SYKES.—August 2, at the Independent chapel, St. Nicholas, Ipswich, by the Rev. John Raven, William Bantick, to Rebecca Sykes, both of Ipswich.

HAINWORTH—READ.—August 2, at Hanover Chapel, Peckham, S.E., by the Rev. R. W. Bett, Mr. Robert Hainworth, second son of William Hainworth, Esq., of Queen's-road, Peckham, to Amelia Thompson Read, fourth daughter of John Read, Esq., of Queen's-road, Peckham.

AKERS—AYRE.—August 2, at Zion Chapel, Northallerton, by the Rev. Crookall, Henry Thomas Akers, to Sarah, only daughter of the late Mr. George Ayre, all of Northallerton.

LEITH—WINTER.—August 2, at Kensington Congregational Chapel, by the father of the bride, John Leith, of Aberdeen, to Marianne, eldest daughter of the Rev. Charles Winter, West Brompton. No cards.

ORGAN—WALTON.—At the Congregational chapel, Rectory-place, Norwich, by the Rev. William Gill, the Rev. Stephen Organ, L.M.S. missionary to India, to Mary Jane, only daughter of Edmund Walton, Esq., Maryon road, Charlton.

DEATHS.

MASSIE.—June 17, at Colombo, Ceylon, after a few days' illness, James Massie, Esq., son of the late Rev. R. Massie, of Atherstone, Acting District Judge of Ratnapoora, Ceylon, aged twenty-two years.

LEONARD.—July 21, at Culford-road, Islington, London, Henry Leonard, aged forty-five. "Having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ."

BIALLOBLOTZKY.—July 24, at Shere, near Guildford, Surrey, Mrs. Bialloblotzky, aged sixty-three.

LIVESLEY.—July 25, at Brookvale, near Douglas, Isle of Man, aged forty-five years, Jane, wife of Mr. William Livesley, late of the Preston Guardian.

THORNTON.—July 29, at 19, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, after a few hours' illness, Agnes Constance, the infant daughter of Mr. William H. Thornton, aged five months. Friends will please accept this intimation.

JAMES.—July 30, aged sixty-one, the Rev. D. James, pastor of the united churches at Hadnall and The Olive for thirty-five years.

HASTINGS.—July 30, at his residence, Barnard's green House, near Malvern, Sir Charles Hastings, M.D., D.C.L., in his seventy-third year.

FLOWER.—July 31, owing to the accidental discharge of a gun, Henrietta Mary, the fifth child and only daughter of the Rev. John Flower, Beccles, in the fifteenth year of her age.

SMEETON.—July 31, at Lenborough, deeply and deservedly regretted, Henry Nott Smeeton, aged forty, youngest son of the late Mr. John Smeeton, of Naseby Woolleys. Friends will kindly accept this intimation.

KEEN.—August 1, suddenly from spasm at the heart while at business, Mr. Joseph Keen, aged seventy-two, late of 17, Francis-street, Newington, and formerly of Reading.

COOMBS.—August 6, at Forest-hill, Theodora Jane, infant daughter of the Rev. J. W. Coombs.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Aug. 6.

The weather during the past week has been somewhat unsettled, but generally favourable for harvest work, which has commenced in many of the early districts. There was a small supply of English wheat to this morning's market, which was sold at the rates of Monday last. The trade was firm, and foreign sold at recent quotations. Barley retains its late value. Beans and peas slow. The large supplies of oats still continue, the return exhibiting the immense aggregate arrival of 135,000 qrs for the week. This is more than the demand will take off, and has depressed the trade fully 6d. per qr. from this day week.

CURRENT PRICES.

WHEAT—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.	FRAB—	Per Qr.	Per Qr.
Essex and Kent,	s. d.	s. d.	Grey	33 to 35	
red, old	53 to 56		Maple	35 38	
Ditto new	42 50		White	37 40	
White, old	55 61		Boilers	38 40	
" new	44 56		Foreign, white ..	38 40	
Foreign red	48 52		RYE	26 23	
" white	52 62				
BARLEY—			OATS—		
English malting ..	31 36		English feed ..	21 26	
Chevalier	33 42		" potatoe ..	26 31	
Distilling	27 31		Scotch feed ..	23 27	
Foreign	20 27		" potatoe ..	26 31	
MALT—			Irish black ..	20 25	
Pale	54 67		" white	21 26	
Chevalier	54 68		Foreign feed ..	21 25	
Brown	48 53				
BEANS—			FLOUR—		
Ticks	42 44		Town made ..	47 50	
Harrow	44 47		Country Marks ..	36 39	
Small	47 51		Norfolk & Suffolk	34 36	
Egyptian	37 41				

BREAD.—LONDON, Monday, Aug. 6.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 8½. to 8½d.; household ditto, 6½d. to 7½d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET.

MONDAY, Aug. 6.—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 18,500 head. In the corresponding week in 1865 we received 28,400; in 1864, 14,029; in 1863, 15,775; in 1862, 10,802; in 1861, 9,697; in 1860, 15,067; in 1859, 10,862; and in 1858, 9,518 head. The supply of foreign stock on sale here to-day was tolerably extensive, and in fair condition. Most of the French beasts were very good. Sales progressed slowly, on rather easier terms. With home-fed beasts we were fairly supplied. The grass-fed stock came to hand in prime condition. The arrivals from Ireland and Scotland were very limited. For all breeds the demand was in a sluggish state, at a decline in the quotations, compared with Monday last, of 2d. per 8lbs. The extreme top price was 5s. 6d. per 8lbs. The arrivals from Lincolnshire, Leicestershire, and Northamptonshire, amounted to about 1,200 Short-horns; from other parts of England, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 43 Scots and Crosses; and from Ireland, 50 oxen, &c. The show of English sheep was tolerably good, and most breeds were very fine. Downs and half-breeds, including prime Leicesters, &c., moved off freely, at fully last week's currency; but most other breeds were a slow inquiry, on former terms. We had a dull trade for lambs, the supply of which was on the increase, on easier terms—viz., from 8s. 8d. to 7s. 8d. per 8lbs. Calves were in fair average supply, and sluggish request, at last week's prices. In pigs very little was doing; nevertheless the quotations were supported.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

Inf. coarse beasts,	8 to 4 0	Prime Southdown	5 10 to 6 0
Second quality ..	4 2 4 8	Lambs	6 8 7 8
Prime large oxen ..	4 10 5 2	Lge. coarse calves	4 4 4 10
Prime Scots, &c. ..	4 5 6	Prime small ..	5 0 5 4
Coarse inf. sheep ..	3 10 4 2	Large hogs ..	4 0 4 6
Second quality ..	4 4 5 0	Neaten. porkers	4 8 5 0
Pr. coarse woolled	5 2 5 8		

Quarter-old store pigs, 30s. to 33s. each. Suckling Calves, 21s. to 23s.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Aug. 6.

These markets are fairly supplied with each kind of meat, which moves off slowly, as follows:—

Per 8lbs. by the carcass.			
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef ..	3 6 to 3 10	Small pork ..	4 8 to 5 2
Middling ditto ..	3 8 4 4	Inf. mutton ..	3 8 4 6
Prime large do. ..	4 6 4 8	Middling ditto ..	4 8 5 4
Do. small do. ..	4 8 4 10	Prime ditto ..	5 6 5 8
Large pork ..	4 0 4 6	Veal	4 2 5 4

COVENT GARDEN MARKET.—LONDON, Saturday, Aug. 4.

Among home-grown supplies furnished this week are considerable quantities of both apples and pears of the earlier sorts, which are realising fair prices. Heavy consignments of the same kinds of fruit have also been received from France and Spain. Fine apples and hot-house grapes are plentiful, and prices for these, as well as for other kinds of indoor produce, have altered but little from those quoted in our last report. Peas and other varieties of vegetables are still arriving in excellent condition. Flowers chiefly consist of orchids, calceolarias, pelargoniums, fuchsias, balsams, cockscombs, mignonettes, and roses.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Aug. 6.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,653 drkins butter, and 2,891 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 21,349 casks, &c., butter, and 2,172 bales of bacon. In the Irish butter market there was a fair amount of business transacted last week, and most descriptions brought an advance of 2s. per cwt. Finest Cloumeils, &c., sold at 112s. to 114s. on board. Foreign met a good

sale; finest Normandy advanced 3s. to 4s. The bacon market ruled flat, the supply being barely equal to the demand, and the shippers looking for an advance of 2s. per cwt. on best Waterford.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Aug. 6.—The supplies of potatoes are less extensive. The trade rules firm, with improving prices. English shaws, 80s. to 100s.; Regents, 90s. to 140s.; Foreign, 100s. to 150s. per ton.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Aug. 6.—Our market continues quiet, but prices are firmer for all samples of good quality. The reports from the plantations are as favourable as can be expected this week, bearing in mind the previous drawbacks and the cold damp nights which have prevailed of late. In the Weald of Kent and Sussex the plant is tolerably clean, and any deficiency that may hereafter arise in this quarter will result from short and weak bine. The Mid and East Kent gardens are still very much infected with vermin, and a continuance of the present chilly nights must tend materially to reduce the yield and affect the quality. Farnham and the country district reports are hardly so promising this week, fresh lice having appeared in many of the grounds. Continental accounts are much the same as last week, Bavaria and Belgium still improving, and the frontier districts are making satisfactory progress. Bohemia is also doing much better. New York advices to the 24th ult. report the hop market as very firm, the stock on hand is light, and the growing plant show signs of improvement. Mid and East Kent, 105s., 140s., 180s.; Weald of Kent, 100s., 120s., 140s.; Farnham and Country, 100s., 125s., 180s.; Sussex, 90s., 110s., 140s.; Yearlings, 95s., 110s., 130s.; Bavarians, 130s., 147s., 170s.; Belgians 100s., 112s., 125s. The imports of foreign hops into London last week were confined to 36 bales from Boulogne and 1 bale from Hamburg.

SEED, Monday, Aug. 6.—The seed market remains quiet. Cloverseeds do not attract any attention, and values are without alteration. New English trifolium is held rather more firmly, and samples now offering are not equal to those first shown. New rapeseed finds buyers at full prices.

WOOL, Monday, Aug. 6.—As the public sales of colonial wool, at which about 130,000 bales will be offered, will be commenced on the 16th inst., and as the high rate in the value of money is still 10 per cent., all kinds of English wool continue very dull. In prices, however, no quotable change has taken place. The supply of wool on offer since our last report is very moderate.

OIL, Monday, Aug. 6.—Lined oil is firm, at 37s. to 37s. 3d. per cwt. on the spot. Rape is steady, at very full prices. For other oils there is a moderate demand, on former terms. French spirits of turpentine 41s. to 42s. per cwt. on the spot. American refined petroleum is, lld. to 1s. 11½d. per gallon.

TALLOW.—LONDON, Monday, Aug. 6.—The tallow trade is steady to-day. F.Y.C. is quoted at 44s. 9d. per cwt. for new on the spot, and 44s. 3d. for old. Town tallow commands 43s. 3d. for net cash. Rough fat is selling at 2s. 2½d. per lbs.

COALS, MONDAY, Aug. 6.—Market very dull at last day's rates. Hettons, 20s. 6d.; Haswell, 20s. 6d.; Hartlepool, 19s. 6d.; original Hartlepool, 20s. 6d.; Caradon, 19s. 6d.; Hetton Lyons, 18s.; Hilywell, 17s. 6d.; Hartleys, 17s. 9d.; Cassop, 19s. 6d. Fresh ships, 43; left, 3—total, 46. At sea, 40.

Advertisements.



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4, 5, & 6, PERRY'S-PLACE; and 1, NEWMAN-YARD, LONDON.

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Introduced more than thirty years ago by WILLIAM S. BURTON, when plated by the patent process of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article, next to sterling silver, that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

A small useful set, guaranteed of first quality for finish and durability, as follows:—

	Fiddle or Old Silver Pattern.	Bead Pattern.	Thread Pattern.	King's or Shell Thread.
12 Table Forks	2 s. d.	2 s. d.	2 s. d.	2 s. d.
12 Table Spoons	1 13 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Forks	1 13 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 12 0	1 15 0
12 Tea Spoons	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 12 0	1 15 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls	0 16 0	1 0 0	1 2 0	1 5 0
2 Sauce Ladles	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 12 0	0 13 0
1 Gravy Spoon	0 6 0	0 8 0	0 8 0	0 9 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls	0 6 0	0 9 0	0 10 0	0 11 0
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl	0 3 4	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 6
1 Pair of Sugar Tongs ..	0 1 8	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 3
1 Pair of Fish Carvers ..	0 2 0	0 3 0	0 3 0	0 4 0
1 Butter Knife	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 10 0	1 10 0
1 Soup Ladle	0 2 6	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0
1 Soup Ladle	0 10 0	0 12 0	0 16 0	0 17 0
1 Sugar Sifter	0 3 3	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 5 6
Total	9 19 9	12 9 0	13 9 6	14 17 3

Any article to be had singly at the same price. An oak chest to contain the above, and a relative number of knives, &c., £2 15s. Tea and Coffee Sets, Dish Covers and Corne Dishes, Cruet and Liqueur Frames, &c., at proportional prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

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DEANE'S—Celebrated Table Cutlery, every variety of style and finish.
 DEANE'S—Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, best manufacture, strongly plated.
 DEANE'S—Electro-plate Tea and Coffee Sets, Liqueur Stands, Cruets, Cake Baskets, &c.
 DEANE'S—Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes. Prices of Tin Dish Covers in sets, 18s., 30s., 40s., 63s., 78s.
 DEANE'S—Papier Maché Tea Trays in sets, from 21s., new and elegant patterns constantly introduced.
 DEANE'S—Bronzed Tea and Coffee Urns, with Loysell's and other patent improvements.
 DEANE'S—Copper and Brass Goods, Kettles, Stew and Preserving Pans, Stockpots, &c.
 DEANE'S—Moderator and Rock Oil Lamps, a large and handsome assortment.
 DEANE'S—Gas Chandeliers, newly-designed patterns in Glass and Bronze—three-light glass from 63s.

DEANE'S—Domestic Baths for every purpose. Bath-room fitted complete.
 DEANE'S—Fenders and Fire-irons, in all modern and approved patterns.
 DEANE'S—Bedsteads in Iron and Brass, with Bedding of superior quality.
 DEANE'S—Register Stoves, improved London-made Kitchen Ranges, &c.
 DEANE'S—Cornices and Cornice-poles, a variety of patterns. French and English.
 DEANE'S—Tin and Japan Goods, Iron Ware, and Culinary Utensils.
 DEANE'S—Turnery, Brushes, Mats, &c., well made strong, and serviceable.
 DEANE'S—Horticultural Tools, Lawn Mowers, Garden Rollers, Wire-work, &c.
 DEANE'S—Harness, Saddles, and Horse Clothing, manufactured on the premises, of the best materials.

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